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GREAT BRITAIN.

WHile the ſtate of public affairs on the continent of Europe wears a doubtful appearance, our own great national concerns unfortunately afford too much matter for ſerious reflection. The receſs of parliament, indeed, was attended with nothing remarkable in affairs merely domeſtic. In general, a greater quiet ſeemed to take place in the minds of the people, than at any time ſince the commencement of the preſent parliament.——

There was no very material change in the ſtate of parties, except that general decline of ſtrength in the oppoſition. The Rockingham party ſtill continued whole and unbroken, and invariably purſued its original line of public conduct. By this means, though conſtantly overpowered, it notwithſtanding continued in ſome degree formidable. The ſame differences of opinion or affections, and the ſame occaſional junction in others, ſtill took place between them and that which was attached to the Earl of Chatham. ——

While affairs were in this dormant ſtate at home, freſh matter unfortunately occurred for the blowing up into a flame thoſe embers of diſcontent and diſcord which had too long been kept alive in America. The inſignificant duty of three pence per pound on tea, which had been left behind ſingly in the year 1770,

when all the other articles enumerated in the ſame bill for the purpoſe of raiſing a revenue had been repealed, was now doomed to be the fatal bone of contention between the mother-country and her colonies. We have ſeen that it was then too truly foretold by thoſe who ſtruggled hard for the repeal of the whole, and who had always declared againſt every idea of an internal taxation on America, that the leaving of one duty, and the diſcharge of the others, could anſwer no other purpoſe, than the leſſening of that ſcanty revenue, which was ſcarcely ſufficient, in its full amount, to anſwer the expence of its collection; that by this means, inſtead of profit or benefit, a new charge, to ſupply the deficiency, would be thrown upon the ſtate at home; while all the other evils, which were then acknowledged as the motives for a partial repeal, would be continued in their utmoſt extent.

We have already had too many opportunities of recollecting the truth of this prediction.—The conſequent diſcontents and diſorders continued to prevail, in a greater or leſſer degree, through all the old colonies on the continent. The ſame ſpirit pervaded the whole. Even thoſe colonies which depended moſt upon the mother-country for the conſumption of their productions, entered into ſimilar aſſociations with the others; and nothing was to be heard of, but reſolutions for the encouragement of their own manufactures, the conſumption of home products, the diſcouragement of foreign articles, and the retrenchment of all ſuperfluities. But ſtill theſe were only ſymptoms of diſcontent, which had little effect on the trade to the colonies. That trade, which had ſomewhat ſtagnated on the late non-importation agreement, revived again, and even flouriſhed. The article indeed of tea, was, by the reſolutions of ſeveral colonies, ſtrictly prohibited; but it ſtill continued to be introduced both from England and other countries, and the duties were paid, though with ſome ſmall appearance of exterior guard and caution.

In the mean time, the governors of moſt of the colonies, and the people, were in a continual ſtate of warfare. Aſſemblies were repeatedly called, and ſuddenly diſſolved. Their time was employed, while ſitting, in reiterating grievances, and framing remonſtrances. Other matters ſprung up, beſides the tea-duty and the cuſtomhouſes, to increaſe the general diſcontent. The late-adopted meaſure, of the governors and judges being paid their ſalaries by the crown, and thereby, as they were removeable at pleaſure, rendered entirely dependent on that, and totally independent of the people, and provincial aſſemblies, however right or neceſſary in the preſent ſtate of affairs, afforded an inexhauſtible ſource of ill-humour and complaint.

The greateſt outrage which was committed in this ſtate of diſorder, happened at Providence in Rhode-Iſland, where his Majeſty's armed ſchooner, the Gaſpee, having been ſtationed to prevent the ſmuggling for which that place notorious, the vigilance of the officer who commanded the veſſel ſo enraged the people, that they boarded her at midnight, June 10. 1772, to the number of two hundred armed men; and, after wounding him, and forcing him and his people to go on ſhore, concluded this daring exploit by burning the ſchooner. Though a reward of 500l. together with a pardon, if claimed by an accomplice, was offered by proclamation for the diſcovering and apprehending any of the perſons concerned in this atrocious act, no effectual diſcovery could be made.

An odd incident happened, which ſerved to revive, with double force, all the ill temper and animoſity that had long ſubſiſted between the executive part of government and the people, in the province of Maſſachuſet's-bay. This was the accidental diſcovery and publication of a number of confidential letters, which had been written during the courſe of the unhappy diſputes with the mother-country, by the then governor and deputy-governor of that colony, to perſons in power and office in England. The letters contained a very unfavourable repreſentation of the ſtate of affairs, the temper and diſpoſition of the people, and the views of their leaders, in that province; and tended to ſhew, not only the neceſſity of the moſt coercive meaſures, but that even a very conſiderable change of the conſtitution, and ſyſtem of government, was neceſſary to ſecure the obedience of the colony. [xxxv. 666.]

Theſe letters indeed were in part confidential and private; but the people of the colony inſiſted, that they were evidently intended to influence the conduct of government, and muſt therefore be ſhewn to ſuch perſons as had an intereſt in

in preſerving their privileges. Upon the death of a gentleman in whoſe poſſeſſion theſe letters then happened to be, they, by ſome means which are not known, fell into the hands of the agent for the colony of Maſſachuſet's-bay; who immediately tranſmitted them to the aſſembly of that province, which was then ſitting at Boſton. The indignation and animoſity which theſe letters excited on the one ſide, and the confuſion on the other, neither need nor admit of deſcription.

After ſeveral violent reſolutions in the houſe of repreſentatives, the letters were preſented to the council, under the ſtricteſt injunction from the repreſentatives, that the perſons who were to ſhew them ſhould not, by any means, ſuffer them, even for a moment, out of their own immediate hands. This affront to the governor was adopted by the council; and upon his requiring to examine the letters that were attributed to him, thereby to be enabled, either to acknowledge them if genuine, or to reprobate them if ſpurious, that board, under the pretence of this reſtriction, refuſed to deliver them into his hands; but ſent a committee to open them before him, that he might examine the hand-writing. To this indignity he was obliged to ſubmit, as well as to the mortification of acknowledging the ſignature.

Such a new ſource of diſcord was not wanting in that colony. The houſe of aſſembly, June 23. 1773, paſſed a petition and remonſtrance to his Majeſty, in which they charged their governor and lieutenant-governor with being betrayers of their truſts, and of the people they governed; of giving private, partial, and falſe information; declared them enemies to the colony; and prayed for juſtice againſt them, and for their ſpeedy removal from their places. So wide was the diſcontent, and ſo weak the powers of government in that aſſembly, that theſe charges, with many others, were carried through by a majority of 82 to 12.

As we have juſt obſerved, the article of tea continued, notwithſtanding the ſtrong reſolutions of the coloniſts, to be ſtill imported into America; yet, by the advantages which foreigners had in the ſale of the low-priced teas, as well as the general odium attending the Britiſh teas, which, as bearing a parliamentary duty, were conſidered as inſtruments of ſlavery, the Eaſt-India company was thought to ſuffer much by the diſpute with the colonies.

Thus circumſtanced, the miniſter, in the laſt ſeſſion, as ſome apparent conſolation to that company, for the ſtrong meaſures which were then purſued againſt it by government, brought in a bill, by which they were enabled to export their teas, duty-free, to all places whatſoever. In conſequence of this meaſure, the company departed, in ſome degree, from its eſtabliſhed mode, of diſpoſing of its teas by public ſales to the merchants and dealers, and adopted the new ſyſtem, of becoming its own exporter and factor. Several ſhips were accordingly freighted with teas for the different colonies by the company, where it alſo appointed agents for the diſpoſal of that commodity.

The ſucceſs of this ſcheme, and any utility to be derived from it, if it did ſucceed, were at the time much queſtioned: ſome active members in that company, and one gentleman of great conſideration amongſt them, remonſtrated againſt it, as rather calculated for the eſtabliſhment of the revenue law in America, than as a favour or ſervice to the company. It is true, that they had then about ſeventeen millions of pounds of tea in their warehouſes; but though this appeared an immenſe quantity to thoſe who were not verſed in the ſtate of the trade, it was ſaid, in reality, to be only equal to about two years uſual conſumption, and it was always intended to have a year's ſtock in hand.

It appears, that the company was not itſelf quite ſatisfied as to the utility of this meaſure; and accordingly conſulted ſome of the moſt eminent perſons in the tea-trade upon the ſubject. By ſome of the moſt intelligent of theſe, it was repreſented as the wildeſt ſcheme that could be imagined, and the moſt remote from affording the relief which they wanted: That even ſuppoſing it attended with all the ſucceſs of which it was poſſibly capable, the returns would be too ſlow and too precarious, to ſupply, in any degree, the company's preſent exigencies in point of caſh; that, on the other hand, it would be offering the greateſt injury to the merchants, who were their eſtabliſhed and never-failing cuſtomers; who purchaſed their teas at all riſks, and paid vaſt ſums of money, at ſtated times, independent of them. Certain meaſures were alſo propoſed, relative to the holding of two public ſales,

within given diſtances of time, by which the company would not only diſpoſe of all its teas, but would receive, as they ſuppoſed, by the firſt payment, at the end only of five months, no leſs than 1,200,000l. in caſh: a ſum ſo conſiderable, and to be paid in ſo ſhort a time, that it would probably enable them to refrain from the fatal loan which they were negotiating with the public. The firſt meaſure, being a favourite with government, was adopted, notwithſtanding theſe reaſons and propoſals.

If ſuch were the opinions formed upon this ſcheme at home, it was univerſally conſidered in the colonies, as calculated merely to circumvent them into a compliance with the revenue-law, and thereby open the door to an unlimited taxation. For it was eaſily ſeen, that if the tea was once landed, and in the cuſtody of the conſignees, no aſſociations, nor other meaſures, would be ſufficient to prevent its ſale and conſumption; and no body could pretend to imagine, that when taxation was eſtabliſhed in one inſtance, it would reſtrain itſelf in others. Beſides that all the dealers, both legal and clandeſtine, who, as tea is an article of ſuch general conſumption in America, were extremely powerful, ſaw their trade taken at once out of their hands. They ſuppoſed that it would all fall into the hands of the company's conſignees, to whom they muſt become, in a great meaſure, dependent, if they could hope to trade at all. The Eaſt-India company, by the late regulations, was brought entirely under the direction of government. The conſignees were of courſe ſuch as favoured adminiſtration, and for that reaſon the moſt unpopular people in America. Particularly at Boſton, they were of the family and neareſt connections of thoſe gentlemen whoſe letters, as we have obſerved, had at that time kindled ſuch prodigious heats and animoſities among the people. It was at an unlucky time that they thought they ſaw a monopoly formed in favour of the moſt obnoxious perſons, and that too for the purpoſe of confirming an odious tax. The ſame ſpirit ſeemed to run like wild-fire throughout the colonies; and without any apparent previous concert, it was every where determined to prevent the landing of the teas at all events.

At the ſame time the Eaſt-India company became ſo exceedingly odious to the people, that a mere oppoſition to her intereſts, abſtracted from all other cauſes, would have embarraſſed any meaſure that was undertaken in her favour. The coloniſts ſaid, that ſhe was quitting her uſual line of conduct, and wantonly becoming the inſtrument of giving efficacy to a law which they deteſted; thereby involving them, as they affirmed, in the preſent dangerous dilemma, either of ſubmiſſion to the eſtabliſhment of a precedent which they deemed fatal to their liberties, or of bringing matters to a criſis which they dreaded, by adopting the only means that ſeemed left to prevent its execution.

As the time approached when the arrival of the tea-ſhips, for the execution of the new plan, was expected, the people aſſembled at different places, in great bodies, and began to take ſuch meaſures as ſeemed moſt effectual to prevent the landing of their cargoes. The tea-conſignees, who had been appointed by the India company, were obliged in moſt places (and in ſome, at the peril of property, if not of life), to relinquiſh their appointments, and to enter into public engagements not to act in that capacity. Committees were appointed by the people in different towns and provinces, whom they armed with ſuch powers as they ſuppoſed themſelves enabled to beſtow. They were authoriſed to inſpect merchants books, to propoſe teſts, to puniſh thoſe whom they conſidered as contumacious, by the dangerous proſcription of declaring them enemies to their country, and of aſſembling the people when they thought neceſſary. In a word, their powers were as indefinite as the authority under which they acted.

In the tumultuous aſſemblies which were frequently held upon this occaſion, numberleſs reſolutions were paſſed, extremely derogatory with reſpect to the authority of the ſupreme legiſlature. Inflammatory hand-bills, and other ſeditious papers, were continually publiſhed; nor were the conductors of newspapers, nor the writers of various pamphlets, much more guarded in their conduct, or temperate in their manner. Even at Philadelphia, which had been ſo long celebrated for the excellency of its police and government, and the temperate manners of its inhabitants, printed papers were diſperſed, warning the pilots on the river Delaware, not to conduct any of thoſe tea-ſhips into their harbour, which were only ſent out for the purpoſe

purpose of enslaving and poisoning all the Americans; at the same time, giving them plainly to understand it was expected, that they would apply their knowledge of the river, under the colour of their profession, in such a manner as would effectually secure their country from so imminent a danger. At New York, in a similar publication, those ships are said to be loaden with the fetters which had been forged for them in Great Britain; and every vengeance is denounced against all persons who dare, in any manner, contribute to the introduction of those chains. All the colonies seemed to have instantly united in this point.

The town of Boston, which had been so long obnoxious to government, was the scene of the first outrage. Three ships laden with tea having arrived in that port, the captains were terrified into a concession, that if they were permitted by the consignees, the board of customs, and the Fort of Castle William, they would return with their cargoes to England. These promises could not be fulfilled: The consignees refused to discharge the captains from the obligations under which they were chartered for the delivery of their cargoes; the customhouse refused them a clearance for their return; and the governor to grant them a passport for clearing the port.

In this state it was easily seen by the people of the town, that the ships lying so near, the teas would be landed by degrees, notwithstanding any guard they could keep, or measures taken to prevent it; and it was as well known, that if they were landed, nothing could prevent their being disposed of, and thereby the purpose of establishing the monopoly, and raising a revenue, fulfilled. To prevent this dreaded consequence, a number of armed men, under the disguise of Mohawk Indians, boarded the ships, Dec. 18. 1773, and in a few hours discharged their whole cargoes of tea into the sea, without doing any other damage, or offering any injury to the captains or crews. It was remarkable, that the government, civil power, garrison of Fort William, and armed ships in the harbour, were totally inactive upon this occasion. [xxxvi. 48.]

Some smaller quantities of tea met afterwards with a similar fate at Boston, and a few other places; but, in general, the commissioners for the sale of that commodity having been obliged to relinquish their employment, and no other persons daring to receive the cargoes which were consigned to them, the masters of the tea-vessels, from these circumstances, as well as from a knowledge of danger, and the determined resolution of the people, readily complied with the terms which were prescribed, of returning directly to England, without entangling themselves by any entry at the customhouses. At New York it was indeed landed under the cannon of a man of war. But the government there were obliged to consent to its being locked up from use. In South Carolina some was thrown into the river as at Boston.

Such was the issue of this unfortunate scheme. Some disposition to these disturbances was known pretty early; but as their utmost extent was still unknown, the meeting of parliament was deferred until after the holidays.

SIR, *London, Dec. 5.*

Singula quaque locum teneant sortita decentem.

AS commissioners are about to be sent to America, invested with very extraordinary powers, in order to settle the unhappy dispute subsisting between America and this country, it may not be improper to give the public some account of the reception which the commissioners of Charles II. met with, on an occasion not very dissimilar.

The following account is selected from the best authorities.

From the Restoration, until the vacating the charter, the colony of the Massachusets did not stand well in England. The principal people of the colony were very apprehensive that designs were formed to deprive them of their privileges. The years 1664 and 1665 afforded them greater occasion for fears than they had met with at any time before.

On the 23d of July 1665, Colonel Richard Nichols, George Cartwright, Samuel Maverick, Esqs, and Sir Robert Carr, arrived at Boston. They brought with them a commission from the King, for reducing the Dutch at the Manhadoes, visiting the colonies in New England, hearing and determining all matters of complaint, and settling the peace and security of the country. At their desire the Governor ordered a meeting of the Council on the 26th. The Commissioners laid their commission before the Council. The Council assembled the

General

General Court, and they reſolved, "That they would bear faith and true allegiance to his Majeſty, adhere to their patent ſo dearly obtained, and ſo long enjoyed by undoubted right, in the ſight of God and man."

"They agreed alſo upon an addreſs to the King, ſetting forth the purchaſe of the ſoil from the council of Plymouth, — the charter from King Charles I. — the great charge they had been at in tranſporting themſelves and families, — in purchaſing lands of the natives, and ſettling the colony.

"They further appealed to God, that they came into this wilderneſs, not to ſeek great things for themſelves, but for the ſake of a quiet life. They profeſſed their ſubjection to his Majeſty, and willingneſs to teſtify their dutiful affection in any righteous way; but it was a great unhappineſs to be reduced to the hard caſe of having no other way of doing it, than by deſtroying their own being, which nature taught them to preſerve; or yielding up their liberties, far dearer to them than their lives; which if they had had any reaſon to expect, they would not have wandered from their father's houſes to the ends of the earth."

Many meſſages paſſed between the General Court and the Commiſſioners; they alſo held a conference, in which the debates ran very high.

In the end, the Commiſſioners reduced their demands reſpecting their authority, to this one queſtion. "Do you acknowledge his Majeſty's commiſſion, wherein we are nominated commiſſioners, to be of full force to all the purpoſes therein contained?"

The Court, by a meſſage to the Commiſſioners, deſired to be excuſed from a direct anſwer to this queſtion; and choſe rather to plead his Majeſty's charter, and his ſpecial charge to the Commiſſioners, not to diſturb them in the enjoyment of it. The Commiſſioners, by a meſſage, inſiſted on a direct anſwer to their queſtion; to which the court replied, "That it was enough for them to give their ſenſe of the powers granted them by charter, and that it was beyond their line to determine the power, extent, or purpoſe of his Majeſty's commiſſion."

On this the Commiſſioners informed the Court, that they were determined to ſit and act as commiſſioners. The Court immediately drew up a declaration againſt it, ſent it to the Commiſſioners, and had it publiſhed by ſound of trumpet.

The Commiſſioners remonſtrated with the Court againſt their declaration, and broke off the conference; and the Court declared, "That the proceedings of the Commiſſioners tended to diſturb the public peace, and determined to put a ſtop to all further treaty."

Thus ended this famous commiſſion; on which Governor Hutchinſon, who can by no means be ſuſpected to have the leaſt partiality for the Americans, has made this remark:

"It cannot be denied, that the commiſſion was a ſtretch of power, ſuperſeding, in many reſpects, the authority and powers granted by the charter; and there appears in the conduct of the general court, upon this occaſion, not an obſtinate perverſe ſpirit, but a modeſt, ſteady adherence to what they imagined at leaſt to be their juſt rights and privileges." *Hutchinſon's Hiſtory of Maſſachuſet's-bay, vol. i. p.* 256.

The inferences to be deduced from the above narrative muſt be obvious to every one who thinks. For if ſuch were the knowledge, the wiſdom, and ſpirit of the Americans, in their weak and infant ſtate, what may not be expected from them, — advanced to manhood, — trained to arms, — and ſtill more oppreſſed?

J. O.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 5.

THE conteſt with America ſeems to have produced a ſtrange overturn in the political ſyſtems of the two great parties who divide this kingdom. — The Tories, by acknowledging the ſupreme power of the Britiſh parliament over the whole Britiſh empire, appear to be turned Whigs; and the Whigs, in attempting to extend the power of the King's prerogative beyond the controul of his parliament, ſhew themſelves to be Tories. — I know not how to account for this. — Being myſelf deſcended from a race of Whigs, I have been accuſtomed to hold in great veneration thoſe reſpectable patriots who promoted, and their ſucceſſors who have ſupported, the Revolution ſettlement; but it mortifies me exceedingly to find ſome of my beſt friends, who profeſs to be of the ſame ſentiments, holding principles which to me appear altogether inconſiſtent with true Whiggiſm, and tending evidently to deſpotiſm or anarchy. — For their ſake,

I have thrown together a few loofe thoughts on this fubject in the form of Queries, as that feems to be the fafhionable mode of writing.

A REVOLUTION WHIG.

QUERIES.

Whether the great object of the worthy patriots at the Revolution was not to limit and circumfcribe the power of the crown, which, prior to that period, had been exercifed in an illegal and tyrannical manner, without the controul of parliament? — Whether by that happy fettlement it was not underftood by every Whig, that the fupreme power of legiflature and government, in all cafes, over the whole Britifh empire, was veſted in the King and Parliament conjunctly? — Whether this was not conſidered as the moſt wife and effectual method of fecuring at once the liberty of the fubject, and the execution of the laws, while the power of making laws was veſted in the Parliament, and that of executing them in the King? — Whether therefore the American claim of being fubject only to the King, — or, in other words, allowing a power to the crown over a great part of the Britifh empire, (protected and defended by Britifh forces), in the exercife of which he would be altogether independent of and uncontroulable by the Britifh parliament, be not evidently repugnant to the principles of the Revolution? — Whether the Britifh Houfe of Commons ought not to be conſidered as a repreſentation of the whole empire, as every fubject, whether refiding in Britain or America, by purchafing a forty-fhillings freehold in England, may actually have a voice in this repreſentation; and as it conſiſts of delegates chofen from different parts, and by different focieties, who, from commercial connections and otherwife, are deeply intereſted in the whole? — And whether fuch a repreſentation be not all that, from the nature of things, can poſſibly be attained in fuch a widely-extended empire? — Whether it be not eſſential to the exiſtence of this empire as one ſtate, that the fupreme power be veſted in this one repreſentative body? and whether the allowing a ſeparate independent power, either with reſpect to taxation, or commercial regulation, in a provincial aſſembly, would not be placing two ſupreme powers in one ſtate? an abſurdity too glaring to be admitted? — Whether every argument adduced by the Americans to prove the great advantage which Britain derives from their trade, does not, at the ſame time, evince the intereſt they have in the repreſentative body; and conſequently the ſecurity they have, that in making laws, their intereſt and happineſs, as well as thoſe of every other part of the empire, will be attended to? — Whether this does not actually appear to have been the caſe in a variety of inſtances, particularly in the preſent reign, by acts of parliament relaxing the ſtrictneſs of the navigation-act, allowing fiſh, rice, grain, &c. to be carried directly from America to the ſouthern parts of Europe, and giving large bounties in Britain on various goods imported from America, while the ſame goods from other parts pay a high duty? — Whether the Americans have good reaſon to complain of the reſtraints that remain on their trade, when it is conſidered, that theſe reſtraints (being on the produce rather as on the people) are equally, if not more, felt, by the merchants in Britain, who are proprietors of the greateſt part of the goods ſent to and brought from America; and when it is further conſidered, that if the Americans are reſtricted to the uſe of Britiſh in preference to foreign manufactures, the people in Britain, on the other hand, are by very high duties, in effect, prohibited from taking from foreigners the ſtaple articles of American produce? — Whether it has not been uniformly acknowledged by the American aſſembly and congreſſes, in all their repreſentations to government, even ſince this diſpute began, that they were Britiſh ſubjects? — Whether if any words have any meaning, this does not imply, that they are the ſubjects of the Britiſh legiſlature? — Whether the American idea of their being ſubjects of our King only, can conſtitute them Britiſh ſubjects, more than the people of Hanover are? — And whether the hiſtory of mankind can afford us an inſtance of a people profeſſing themſelves to be the ſubjects of a ſtate, enjoying privileges and protection as ſuch, and yet openly denying ſubjection to the ſupreme authority of that ſtate, or only acknowledging that authority in ſo far, and in ſuch caſes, as to them ſeemeth meet?

Whether the tax of three pence per pound, impoſed by parliament on tea imported into America, (after a drawback of duties here), was not the chief

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if not the only cauſe of the preſent diſturbances; the ſubſequent acts complained of having for their object merely the maintaining the authority of parliament in this inſtance? — Whether there was any thing in that tax ſo oppreſſive, as to juſtify the avowed reſiſtance to that authority, which, in many inſtances, and almoſt in every reign theſe hundred years paſt, had been exerciſed and acknowledged even in impoſing port-duties, as well as in many internal regulations, in all the colonies? — Whether ſuch reſiſtance to the authority of parliament be not ſtriking at the conſtitution, and therefore a rebellion more criminal in its nature, and more dangerous in its conſequences, than that which has for its object ſolely the changing the perſon intruſted with the regal power? — Whether they are not Tories of the worſt kind, and the moſt dangerous enemies of the ſtate, who juſtify the Americans in their preſent reſiſtance to all legal authority? — Whether the whole hiſtory of the Romiſh clergy affords a more ſhocking diſplay of jeſuitiſm, than the paſtoral letter from the ſynod of New York and Philadelphia [417.]; in which, with an affected ſpirit of moderation, they recommend loyalty to the King, and with the ſame breath the utmoſt firmneſs in reſiſting his authority and power, though ſupported by parliament; and in obedience to the apoſtolic command, of "exhorting every ſoul to be ſubject to the higher powers;" and "putting them in mind to obey magiſtrates, and be ſubject to the powers that be;" they enjoin, in the warmeſt manner, union among their people, — in ſubjection to no magiſtrates, — to no powers that had exiſted before, — but to the general congreſs, — a power created by themſelves? — Whether it would not be more decent for our clergy at home, and thoſe on the eſtabliſhment in particular, to ſay nothing in their public prayers upon the diſpute with America, than to pray for a happy ſettlement of the differences between the mother-country and her colonies, or to uſe ſuch expreſſions as imply a doubt that the Americans are not in rebellion? — Whether had our clergy prayed for a happy accommodation between the King and the Pretender in 1745, they would have been conſidered as enemies of the ſtate, and treated accordingly? — and, Whether the rebellion then was more open or violent, or more legally declared to be ſuch, than the rebellion now?

Whether, in fine, there ever was, or ever can be, a people more happy in the enjoyment of the moſt perfect liberty than the ſubjects of Great Britain are at preſent in every part of the empire? and whether, therefore, thoſe men are not the greateſt enemies to the ſtate, and to mankind in general, who, by falſe reaſonings, and groſs miſrepreſentations, attempt to overturn that government by which we are ſecured in the poſſeſſion of ſuch diſtinguiſhed privileges?

An extraordinary inſtance of Enthuſiaſm.

From Granger's Biographical Hiſtory.

THE moſt ſignal inſtance of pure enthuſiaſm that hath ever occurred to me, is that of Mr John Maſon, miniſter of Water Stratford, near Buckingham. He was a man of great ſimplicity of behaviour, of the moſt unaffected piety, and of learning and abilities far above the common level, till he was bewildered by the myſteries of Calviniſm, and infatuated with millenary notions. This calm and grave enthuſiaſt was as firmly perſuaded as he was of his own exiſtence, and as ſtrongly perſuaded others, that he was the Elias appointed to proclaim the approach of Chriſt, who was ſpeedily to begin the millennium, and fix his throne at Water Stratford. Crowds of people aſſembled at this place, who were fully convinced, that this great æra would preſently commence; and eſpecially after Maſon had, in the moſt ſolemn manner, affirmed to his ſiſter, and ſeveral other perſons, that as he lay on his bed he ſaw Chriſt in all his Majeſty. Never was there a ſcene of more frantic joy expreſſed by ſinging, fidling, dancing, and all the wildneſs of enthuſiaſtic geſtures, and rapturous vociferation, that was, for ſome time, ſeen at Stratford, where a mixed multitude aſſembled to hail the approach of King Jeſus. Every vagabond and village fidler that could be procured bore a part in the rude concert at this tumultuous jubilee. Maſon was obſerved to ſpeak rationally on every ſubject that had no relation to his wild notions in religion. He died in 16[illegible] ſoon after he fancied he had ſeen his ſaviour, fully convinced of the reality of the viſion, and of his own divine miſſion. See a particular account of his life and character, by H. Maurice, rector of Tyringham, Bucks, 1695, a quarto pamphlet.

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AMERICA. [592.]

The following addreſs was publiſhed in Canada, on the arrival there of Col. Arnold, with the troops under his command [554.].

" By his Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Eſq; Commander in Chief of the Armies of the United Colonies of North America.

To the Inhabitants of CANADA.

Friends and Brethren,

THE unnatural conteſt between the Engliſh colonies and Great Britain, has now riſen to ſuch a height, that arms alone muſt decide it. The colonies, confiding in the juſtice of their cauſe, and the purity of their intentions, have reluctantly appealed to that Being in whoſe hands are all human events. He has hitherto ſmiled upon their virtuous efforts: — the hand of tyranny has been arreſted in its ravages; and the Britiſh arms, which have ſhone with ſo much ſplendor in every part of the globe, are now tarniſhed with diſgrace and diſappointment.—Generals of approved experience, who boaſted of ſubduing this great continent, find themſelves circumſcribed within the limits of a ſingle city and its ſuburbs, ſuffering all the ſhame and diſtreſs of a ſiege; while the free-born ſons of America, animated by the genuine principles of liberty, and love of their country, with increaſing union, firmneſs, and diſcipline, repel every attack, and deſpiſe every danger.

Above all, we rejoice, that our enemies have been deceived with regard to you. — They have perſuaded themſelves, they have even dared to ſay, that the Canadians were not capable of diſtinguiſhing between the bleſſings of liberty, and the wretchedneſs of ſlavery; that gratifying the vanity of a little circle of nobility — would blind the eyes of the people of Canada.—By ſuch artifices they hoped to bend you to their views. But they have been deceived: inſtead of finding in you that poverty of ſoul, and baſeneſs of ſpirit, they ſee, with a chagrin equal to our joy, that you are enlightened, generous, and virtuous; — that you will not renounce your own rights, or ſerve as inſtruments to deprive your fellow-ſubjects of theirs.—Come then, my brethren, unite with us in an indiſſoluble union; let us run together to the ſame goal. — We have taken up arms in defence of our liberty, our property, our wives, and our children; we are determined to preſerve them, or die. We look forward with pleaſure to that day, not far remote, (we hope), when the inhabitants of America ſhall have one ſentiment, and the full enjoyment of the bleſſings of a free government.

Incited by theſe motives, and encouraged by the advice of many friends of liberty among you, the Grand American Congreſs have ſent an army into your province, under the command of General Schuyler; — not to plunder, but to protect you; — to animate, and bring forth into action thoſe ſentiments of freedom you have diſcloſed, and which the tools of deſpotiſm would extinguiſh through the whole creation. To co-operate with this deſign, and to fruſtrate thoſe cruel and perfidious ſchemes, which would deluge our frontiers with the blood of women and children, I have detached Colonel Arnold into your country, with a party of the army under my command. —I have enjoined him, and I am certain that he will conſider himſelf, and act as in the country of his patrons, and beſt friends. Neceſſaries and accommodations of every kind which you may furniſh, he will thankfully receive, and render the full value. — I invite you therefore as friends and brethren, to provide him with ſuch ſupplies as your country affords; and I pledge myſelf not only for your ſafety and ſecurity, but for ample compenſation. Let no man deſert his habitation; —let no one flee as before an enemy. The cauſe of America, and of liberty, is the cauſe of every virtuous American citizen: whatever may be his religion or his deſcent, the United Colonies know no diſtinction but ſuch as ſlavery, corruption, and arbitrary domination may create. Come then, ye generous citizens! range yourſelves under the ſtandard of general liberty, — againſt which all the force and artifice of tyranny will never be able to prevail.

[421.] G. WASHINGTON."

Ethan Allen, who was taken priſoner in a ſkirmiſh near Montreal [554.], who ſtyles himſelf a Colonel in the American army, (but who was an outlaw, and a reward of 300l. offered by the aſſembly of New York for apprehending him), wrote the following letter to Gen. Preſcott, on being made priſoner.

" Hon. Sir, *Sept.* 25. 1775.

In the wheel of tranſitory events I find

myſelf priſoner, and in irons: probably your Honour has certain reaſons to me inconceivable, though I challenge an inſtance of this ſort of œconomy of the Americans during the late war towards any officers of the crown.—On my part, I have to aſſure your Honour, that when I had the command, and took Capt. Delaplace and Lieut. Felton, with the garriſon of Ticonderoga [309. 420.], I treated them with every mark of friendſhip and generoſity; the evidence of which is notorious even in Canada. I have only to add, that I expect an honourable and humane treatment, as an officer of my rank and merit ſhould have, and ſubſcribe myſelf your Honour's moſt obedient humble ſervant, ETHAN ALLEN."

By a proclamation of Gen. Carleton of Sept. 29. all ſhips in the province of Quebec were forbid to depart thence till the 20th of October.

"*Quebec, Sept.* 29. On Saturday laſt Col. Maclean, with the recruits of the royal emigrants [554.], marched for Montreal; and yeſterday a detachment of the 7th regiment (royal fuſileers) arrived here from St Igan, in their way to the ſame place.

On Saturday evening laſt the Britiſh inhabitants muſtered on the parade, when the Lieutenant-Governor took them under his immediate command, and appointed Major Caldwell to command under him; and the ſame evening twenty five gentlemen volunteers mounted guard.

Sunday morning laſt, the eleven companies of Canada militia were reviewed on the parade by the Lieutenant-Governor, when arms were diſtributed to them. His Honour was highly pleaſed to find the Canadians of this city firmly reſolved to ſupport the crown, and defend their fortunes againſt the rebels. They had before mounted guard, beſides ſerving on patrole." *Quebec gazette.*

"*Halifax, Sept.* 7. By a letter from Boſton, we are informed, that an armed ſloop from the eaſtern part of New England, with forty men on board, had taken the brigantine Loyal Briton, at St John's river, in the bay of Fundy, laden with oxen, ſheep, &c. for Boſton; alſo that the Americans had burnt his Majeſty's fort at the mouth of the river, and carried off three ſoldiers with their arms and proviſions."

"*Whitehall, Dec.* 16. By the laſt advices received from Quebec, of the 26th of October, it appears, that Gen. Carleton, who was then at Montreal, had formed a conſiderable corps of Canadians and Engliſh; that he, and Lt-Col. Macleane, who commanded another corps on Sorel river, were preparing to proceed, by ſeparate routes, to the relief of St John's, which had been for ſome time inveſted by the rebels, without their being able to make any impreſſion upon it; and that there was the greateſt probability, that the country would be ſoon cleared of thoſe invaders, whoſe force was conſiderably diminiſhed by ſickneſs and deſertion, and in great want of neceſſary ſupplies.

There are no advices from Boſton later than the 12th of October, when Gen. Gage left it inveſted as before, by the rebel-army, which had however attempted nothing ſince the affair of Bunker's-hill." *Lond. gaz.*

After ſeeing the preceeding article in the gazette of Dec. 16. people were greatly ſurpriſed on the arrival of a mail from New York on the 18th, with the New-York gazette, containing the following intelligence.

"*Albany, Oct.* 30. Laſt Saturday evening, an expreſs from the continental army in Canada arrived in this city, with the following important intelligence, viz. — That the fortreſs of Chamblee was taken the 18th inſt. The garriſon furrendered priſoners of war. To facilitate its reduction, the Canadians carried the cannon of the continental troops down the Rapids, and paſt the fort of St John's. Our troops were attacked at La Praire, but the party who attacked them were defeated with much loſs. Their formidable ſchooner was ſunk by our cannon: two ſtands of colours were taken at Chamblee. We have taken ſuch a quantity of powder and ammunition of every kind, that the reduction of St John's is almoſt certain."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in Canada to his friend in Albany.

"Camp before St John's, Oct. 20. I have the ſatisfaction to inform you, that Fort Chamblee furrendered the 18th inſtant to Major Brown. Incloſed I ſend you a liſt of the officers, ſoldiers, and ſtores taken at Chamblee. Your brother is gone to Long Geel, where they have had a ſmall ſkirmiſh with 150 Canadians, and have taken five of them priſoners.

A liſt of priſoners taken at Chamblee.

Major Stopford, Capt. Price, Capt. Goodwin, Lieut. Hamen, Lieut. Shuttleworth,

worth, Lieut. Harriſon, Capt. Alge, of the ſchooner, Commiſſary M'Colough, a ſurgeon, and 76 privates.

An inventory of ſtores taken at Chamblee: 80 barrels flour, 11 ditto rice, 7 ditto peaſe, 6 ditto butter, 134 ditto pork (ſeven damaged), 124 barrels gunpowder, 300 ſwivel-ſhot, and one box muſket-ſhot, 6564 muſket-cartridges, 150 French arms, 3 royal mortars, 61 ſhells, 500 hand-grenades, 83 ſtands royal fuſileers muſkets, 83 accoutrements of ditto, naval ſtores for three veſſels, five French priſoners taken at Long Geel."

Extract of a letter from Gen. Montgomery, dated, Camp before St John's, Oct. 20.

"I have the pleaſure to acquaint you with the ſurrender of Chamblee to Major Brown and Major Livingſton, which laſt headed about 300 Canadians. We had not above 50 of our troops. Indeed it was the plan of the Canadians, who carried down the artillery paſt the fort of St John's, in batteaus. I ſend you the colours of the 7th regiment, and a liſt of ſtores taken. Major Brown aſſures me, that we have gotten ſix tons of powder, which, with the bleſſing of God, will finiſh our buſineſs here. Major Brown offered his ſervice upon this occaſion. Upon this and all other occaſions I have found him active and intelligent.

The enemy's ſchooner is ſunk: they have not been anxious to ſave her, elſe they might eaſily have protracted her fate. I muſt now think, unleſs ſome unlucky accident befalls us, we ſhall accompliſh our buſineſs here, as I ſhall fall to work in earneſt on this ſide of the water. The troops are in high ſpirits. Col. Warner has had a little bruſh with a party from Montreal. The enemy retired with the loſs of five priſoners, and ſome killed. Some of the priſoners (Canadians) are enemies, and muſt be taken care of, La Mouche one of them. The Caghnawagas have deſired 100 men from us. I have complied with their requeſt; and am glad to find they put ſo much confidence in us, and are ſo much afraid of Mr Carleton; not that I think they had any thing to apprehend. He has too much buſineſs on his hands already to wiſh to make more enemies.

I ſhall endeavour by means of the Chamblee garriſon, to obtain better treatment for Allen [650.] and the other priſoners, as well Canadians as our own troops.

I ſhall ſend off the priſoners as ſoon as poſſible; their number of women and quantity of baggage is aſtoniſhing.

The commanding officer at St John's has been ſo polite as to let our batteaus paſs to the head of the Rapids, in order to take in the baggage of the Chamblee garriſon. He behaved very genteelly to Lieut. Lockwood of Waterbury's, who went in with the requeſt from Major Stopford.

The Major is a man of family in Ireland.

Major Brown has brought the colours of the 7th regiment, which I have the honour to tranſmit to you."

Articles propoſed by his Majeſty's garriſon at Chamblee.

"1. The officers and men not to be made priſoners, but to march unmoleſted with their arms, accoutrements, twenty-four rounds of ammunition each, drums beating, colours flying, and proviſion-carts ſufficient to paſs by the ſhorteſt road to Montreal, or any other place in the province of Quebec, at the option of the Hon. Major Stopford, the commanding officer. 2. Officers and men to be allowed their baggage. 3. The men not to be decoyed from their regiments. 4. Women and children to be permitted to go with the regiments and their effects, unmoleſted. 5. The ammunition and ſtores of all kinds remaining in the garriſon, to be given up. 6. Hoſtages to be given on both ſides for the faithful performance of the above articles, and then to be exchanged."

Anſwers to the above by Maj. Brown.

"1. The garriſon, officers, and men, to ſurrender themſelves priſoners of war. 2. In caſe the garriſon ſurrender priſoners of war, to have all their baggage, agreeable to their deſire. 3. It never was the intention of any officer, intruſted with the command of a party, now beſieging your fort, to take the advantage of decoying the garriſon after a ſolemn engagement entered into by both parties, and conſequently your fears on that head are groundleſs. 4. The women and children ſhall be permitted to go with the reſt of the garriſon, and take their effects, provided the garriſon ſurrender as aforeſaid. 5. The ammunition and ſtores, &c. of all kinds, to be delivered up on the faith and honour of the commanding officer.

In reply to Major Brown's anſwer to the Hon. Major Stopford's propoſals, in regard to the ſurrender of Fort Chamblee, Major Stopford having conſidered Major Brown's articles, agrees to the ſame, although he could wiſh the firſt might have been as he propoſed.

Major Stopford, relying in every article on Major Brown's honour, will give him up the fort any hour to-morrow morning.

"*New York, Nov.* 13. 1775. Yeſterday arrived an expreſs from our army in Canada, by whom we have the following important intelligence.

Extract of a letter from an officer of the New-York forces, dated, at St John's, Nov. 3.

"I have the pleaſure to inform you, that I had the honour of marching into, and taking poſſeſſion of this fortreſs, at the head of my company, and about 200 men from the different corps of which our army is compoſed, about nine o' clock this morning; when the garriſon, conſiſting of about 600 men, marched out, and grounded their arms on the plain, to the weſtward of the fort, (agreeable to the terms of the incloſed capitulation), and were immediately embarked in batteaus for Capt. Mead's encampment, and from thence to be ſent under guard, as ſpeedily as poſſible, for Ticonderoga, Connecticut, or any other place which the continental congreſs may direct. I moſt ſincerely congratulate you on this moſt fortunate event, which, in my opinion, will be a moſt fatal ſlab to the helliſh machinations of the foes to freedom, as it will facilitate the reduction of Canada, and ſecure the Canadians in our favour. We have taken in the fort a conſiderable quantity of military ſtores, among which are ſeventeen pieces of excellent braſs artillery, two of them twenty-four pounders, the reſt of them field-pieces; two royal howitzers, ſeveral mortars, cohorns, and a conſiderable number of iron cannon. There were in the garriſon about 500 regular troops; the reſt were compoſed of Canadian volunteers, among which are many of their nobleſſe, who, I believe, are (from appearance) on the ſtool of repentance.—And as you may be fond of knowing how we have proceeded, in carrying on the ſiege of this place, ſince my laſt, I will give you a detail of the particular operations ſince that period.

On Saturday the 28th ult. the main body of the army decamped from the ſouth, and marched to the north ſide of the fort, under the command of General Wooſter. We were joined in the evening by General Montgomery, and the ſame night we began to throw up a breaſt-work (on an eminence which entirely commanded the enemy's works), in order to erect a battery of cannon and mortars. This battery they kept continually pelting at with grape-ſhot and ſhells, but without doing us the leaſt injury, until Wedneſday morning; when we opened our battery, conſiſting of three twelve and one nine pounder, three mortars, and as many cohorns, with which we kept an almoſt inceſſant blaze on them great part of the day, and likewiſe from our battery on the eaſt ſide of the river; which the enemy returned with the greateſt ſpirit. Late in the afternoon I received a meſſage from Gen. Montgomery, ordering me to ceaſe firing till further orders. Theſe orders were extremely diſagreeable to me, when I ſaw ſome of my men bleeding before my eyes, and dying with the wounds which they had received. On our ceaſing to fire, the General ordered a parley to be beat, and ſent in an officer to demand a ſurrender of the fort; two officers ſoon after returned with him, and were led blindfold through the camp to the General's tent, where a pretty long conference was held, and they promiſed the General an anſwer from the commanding officer next morning; which promiſe was complied with. The anſwer imported, That if they ſhould receive no relief within four days, he would then ſend in ſome propoſals. The General replied, That he muſt have an explicit anſwer next morning, and the garriſon muſt remain priſoners of war at all events; and that, if they had any intention to renew hoſtilities, they need only ſignify it by firing a gun as a ſignal. This, though very unpalatable, they were at length obliged to digeſt, as you will ſee by the capitulation. You will readily excuſe the incorrectneſs of this ſcroll, when I inform you, it is now paſt one o'clock in the morning, having had no time to write before, as I have been all day at the fort, examining the ſtores, and we are to begin our march for Montreal this morning, and my fingers and ſenſes ſo benumbed with cold, that I can ſcarcely write at all, owing to a north-eaſterly wind, and plenty of ſnow, which is now falling in abundance. Yet, notwithſtanding, I am not ſo

ſo ſenſeleſs or ungrateful as to forget my friends. I am, your's, &c.

P. S. My little company has been rather unfortunate, as I have had five killed, four by the enemy, and one by accident; ſix wounded, and one died by ſickneſs, which is as great a loſs as has been ſuſtained by the whole army, except in the firſt ſkirmiſh with the Indians, &c.; but this is what we muſt naturally expect, as the poſt of honour ever is the poſt of danger."

St John's, Nov. 2. 1775.

Articles of capitulation propoſed by Major Charles Preſton, for his Majeſty's fort of St John's, in the province of Canada.

"Art. I. All acts of hoſtility ſhall ceaſe on both ſides till the articles of capitulation ſhall be agreed upon and ſigned.——Anſ. Agreed.

Art. II. The garriſon ſhall be allowed the honours of war, and ſuffered to proceed with their baggage and effects to the moſt convenient port of America, from thence to embark for Great Britain, as ſoon as they ſhall be furniſhed with tranſports and proviſions, by his Excellency General Gage, or the commander in chief of his Majeſty's troops in America.

Anſ. The garriſon ſhall march out with the honours of war: this is due to their fortitude and perſeverance. The non-commiſſioned officers and privates ſhall ground their arms on the plain, ſouth of the fort, and immediately imbark on board ſuch boats as ſhall be provided for that purpoſe. The officers ſhall keep their ſide-arms, and their fire-arms ſhall be put up in a box, and delivered to them when theſe unhappy diſputes are ended, if they do not chuſe to diſpoſe of them before.

The garriſon muſt go to Connecticut government, or ſuch other province as the continental congreſs ſhall direct, there to remain till our unhappy differences ſhall be compromiſed, or till they are exchanged. Our priſoners having been conſtantly treated with a brotherly affection, the effects of the garriſon ſhall not be with-held from them.

Art. III. An officer or quartermaſter from each corps ſhall be allowed to paſs to Montreal upon parole of honour, there to tranſact and ſettle the buſineſs of his reſpective corps, and to bring up their baggage, cloathing, and pay; for which purpoſe they ſhall be furniſhed with carts and batteaus.—Anſ. Agreed to in the fulleſt latitude.

Art. IV. The Canadian gentlemen, inhabitants, and other perſons reſiding in this province, and now at St John's, ſhall be permitted to return unmoleſted to their reſpective homes, with their arms and baggage, and remain ſecure in their property and effects.—Anſ. Anſwered in the ſecond article;—the Canadian gentleman and others being part of the garriſon.

Art. V. The ſick and wounded ſhall be taken proper care of, and permitted to join their reſpective corps, or to return to their reſpective homes, upon their recovery.

Anſ. The ſick and wounded ſhall be taken care of by their own ſurgeons, and, when recovered, follow their reſpective corps.

Art. VI. As ſoon as the above articles ſhall be ſigned, Major Preſton will deliver up the fort, with the ammunition, proviſions, &c.

Anſ. To-morrow morning at eight o'clock the garriſon will march out, having firſt collected their baggage and effects together in a convenient place for embarkation, and leaving a guard for its protection. The officers muſt be upon honour with reſpect to their baggage; for ſhould any Canadian or other effect his eſcape, his baggage ſhall be given as plunder to the troops. The quartermaſter-general, with proper commiſſaries, will attend at eight o'clock to receive the artillery, ammunition, naval ſtores, &c. The deſerters from the continental army ſhall not be included in the ſtipulation for the garriſon. The commanding officer to ſign and deliver the articles of capitulation by ſun-ſet this evening.

Signed, &c."

"*Whitehall, Dec.* 23. This morning Brook Watſon, Eſq; arrived at Lord George Germain's office from Quebec, with diſpatches from Maj.-Gen Carleton, dated Montreal, Nov. 5. containing intelligence, that Gen. Carleton, not being able to collect a force that might be depended upon for the relief of St John's, the rebels had taken advantage of the defection of the lower claſs of Canadians to preſs forward their enterpriſe; and that the forts of Chamblee and St John upon Richlieu river, the latter of which had ſtopped the progreſs of the rebels for above two months, had ſurrendered, and the

the garriſons were made priſoners upon capitulation.

By a letter from Lt-Gov. Cramahé, dated Quebec, Nov. 9. it appears, that a party of rebels, under the command of one Arnold, had invaded the province by the way of the river Chaudiere; and that part of them were actually arrived, and had taken poſt at Point Levi, oppoſite to Quebec." *Lond. gaz.*

"SIR, In juſtice to the characters of Maj. Preſton, the officers, Canadian gentlemen and ſoldiers, taken in the garriſon of St John's, you are deſired to inform the public, that they were for many weeks cut off from all communication, living upon half-allowance of proviſions, and, at the time of their ſurrender, reduced to half a barrel of pork and one barrel of flour. The Canadian gentlemen, who entered the garriſon to aſſiſt in its defence early in September, were greatly diſtreſſed for want of cloathing, particularly ſhoes, the greater number being barefooted, and the ſeaſon ſeverely cold. Notwithſtanding all theſe diſtreſſes, they to the laſt gave manifeſt proof of their bravery and fidelity. Mr Montgomery, who commanded the beſiegers, anſwered, "The garriſon ſhall march out with the honours of war; this is due to their fortitude and perſeverance. *Pity it had not been employed in a better cauſe:*" The latter part of the anſwer was received by the brave garriſon with the utmoſt indignation: they unanimouſly determined, that if Mr Montgomery would not ſtrike it out, they would to a man periſh by the ſword, rather than ſubmit to ſo great an inſult. Mr Montgomery immediately ſtruck it out, ſaying it had been inſerted without his knowledge. Pity ſuch true bravery ſhould not have received effectual ſupport." *Lond. pap. Dec.* 26.

"*Quebec, Nov.* 8. Laſt ſpring, a body of the Yankey troops came to St John's, (which lies within the limits of this province, and is the key of it), from whence they took the King's armed ſloop, a number of batteaus, and a ſerjeant, and fourteen men, who were there taking care of ſome ſtores, and ſent them to New-England [370.]. Immediately on Gen. Carleton's receiving an account of this, he ſet off for St John's, with a number of artificers and ſailors, to erect a fort, and build veſſels; and ordered the 7th regiment and part of the 26th, being all the troops in the province, with fifty Canadian volunteers, to St John's. Some time after, the Yankeys returned; and being joined by a number of Canadians, beſieged the fort, and, by their numbers, cut off all communication between Montreal and it, and took a large convoy of proviſions and neceſſaries. In this ſituation were theſe brave fellows left, in continual hopes of relief, till the 2d inſtant; when, after ſtanding out againſt a conſtant fire for *forty-eight days*, they were obliged to capitulate, being reduced to one barrel of powder, and a ſingle ration of proviſions, and had lived for fifteen days on half a ration a-day, and nothing but water to drink for ſix weeks, without beds, or bedding, or any thing to cover them from the inclemency of the weather, except a cellar, the barracks being deſtroyed by bombs. The fortitude of theſe few men can ſcarcely be equalled: the hopes they had of being daily relieved gave them freſh courage: but they were moſt ſhamefully deceived; no attempt of the kind was ever made till a few days ago; Col. Maclean, a brave officer, made a puſh, with a few men; but was too late; and he was obliged to retire, which he did, without loſing one man, and got ſafe on board a man of war, at Sore, on Thurſday laſt."

"*London, Dec.* 30. Authentic letters received from perſons of diſtinction in Canada, concur in mentioning the extraordinary eſcape of Gen. Carleton. He had marched to the relief of Fort St John, with upwards of 2000 Canadians under his command; and, deeming himſelf ſecure of the fidelity of thoſe people, he thought of nothing but obliging the provincials to raiſe the ſiege. The event had nearly proved fatal. The Canadians to a man deſerted. Gen. Carleton was purſued, and had only an opportunity of ſhewing his military ſkill, by — retreating with precipitancy."

The Earl of Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, ſeems to act in the moſt ſpirited manner of any of the governors in North America. [366. 544.]

"On Saturday laſt, between two and three o'clock after noon, an officer, with only twelve or thirteen ſoldiers, and a few ſailors, landed at the county-wharf in Norfolk, under cover of the men of war, and marched up the main ſtreet to Mr Holt's printing-office; from whence, without the ſmalleſt oppoſition or reſiſtance, (although there were ſome hundred ſpectators), they deliberately carried off the types, and ſundry other print-

ing

ing implements, with two of the workmen; and after getting to the water-ſide, with their booty, gave three huzzas, in which they were joined by a crowd of negroes. A few ſpirited gentlemen in Norfolk, juſtly incenſed at ſo flagrant a breach of good order and the conſtitution, ordered the drum to beat to arms; but were joined by few or none; ſo that it appears Norfolk is at preſent a very inſecure place for the life or property of any individual, and is conſequently deſerted daily by numbers of the inhabitants, with their effects." *Williamsburgh gazette, Oct.* 7.

This gave occaſion to the following repreſentation and anſwer.

"To his Excellency, the Rt Hon. John Earl of Dunmore, his Majeſty's Lieutenant and Governor-General of the colony and dominion of Virginia, and Vice-Admiral of the ſame.

We his Majeſty's faithful ſubjects, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council, of the borough of Norfolk, in common hall aſſembled, beg leave to repreſent to your Lordſhip, That, on this day, a party of men, under the command of Capt. Squire of the Otter ſloop of war, lying in this harbour, landed in the moſt public part of this borough, in the moſt daring manner, and, in open violation of the peace and good order thereof, ſeized on the printing-utenſils belonging to an inhabitant of this town, as well as the perſons of two of his family. We beg leave alſo to repreſent to your Lordſhip, That this act is both illegal and riotous; and that that, together with a muſket-ball fired into the town yeſterday from on board the King's-Fiſher, has greatly alarmed and incenſed the inhabitants; and has occaſioned a great number of the women and children to abandon this borough; and that, if theſe arbitrary proceedings paſs unnoticed by your Lordſhip, as chief magiſtrate of this colony, that none of the inhabitants are ſafe from inſult and abuſe: we therefore, as our duty, repreſent this matter to your Lordſhip, for your interpoſition.

We, my Lord, as men, and as a common hall, have ever preſerved the peace of this town; and have never prevented the ſhips of war and others from being ſupplied with proviſions, or any other neceſſaries; and have carefully avoided offering any inſult to any of his Majeſty's ſervants.

We had therefore hoped, that the inhabitants would never have been moleſted in their lawful buſineſs; we are ſorry, however, to have it in our power to ſtate this fact to your Lordſhip; which we muſt, and do think a groſs violation of all that men and freemen can hold dear. Allow us to obſerve to your Lordſhip, that if the inhabitants had been diſpoſed to repel the inſult, that they were ſufficiently able, either to have cut off or taken priſoners the whole party that came on ſhore: and this, we hope, is another proof of their peaceable intentions.

We, the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the borough of Norfolk, do moſt earneſtly intreat your Lordſhip, that the captains of the men of war may not reduce the inhabitants to the dreadful alternative, of defending their perſons, or tamely ſuffering themſelves to be abuſed; and requeſt that your Lordſhip will interpoſe your authority, to put a final ſtop to ſuch infringements of our rights, and to order the perſons ſeized on by Capt. Squire to be immediately put on ſhore, and the property to be replaced from whence it was taken.

Norfolk, Sept. 30. 1775."

"To the Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the borough of Norfolk.

Gentlemen,

I was an eye-witneſs to a party belonging to the Otter ſloop of war landing at the hour and place you mention, and did ſee them bring off two of the ſervants belonging to the printer, together with his printing-utenſils; and I do really think, they could not have rendered the borough of Norfolk, or the country adjacent to it, a more eſſential ſervice, than by depriving them of the means of poiſoning the minds of the people, and exciting in them the ſpirit of rebellion and ſedition, and by that means drawing inevitable ruin and deſtruction on themſelves and country.

As to the illegality of the act, I am afraid ſome of you in this very common hall aſſembled, ought to bluſh when you uſe the expreſſion; as I know, you cannot but be conſcious, that you have, by every means in your power, totally ſubverted the laws and the conſtitution, and have been the adviſers and abettors in throwing off all allegiance to that Majeſty's crown and government to whom

you

you profeſs yourſelves faithful ſubjects ——As to the muſket-ball being fired into the town, I believe there is not a man in it that is not ſatisfied it was an accident, and ſuch a one as I hope will never happen again. But with regard to your having ever preſerved the peace in your town, there is a recent proof of the contrary. — As to your not repelling the inſult, as you call it, or taking the ſmall party priſoners that was on ſhore, I impute it to ſome other reaſons, (from your drum beating to arms during the greateſt part of the time that the party was on ſhore) than to your peaceable intentions. — As to your laſt requiſition, I do aſſure you, that every means in my power ſhall be employed, both with the army and the navy, to preſerve the peace, good order, and happineſs, of the inhabitants of the borough of Norfolk, ſo long as they behave themſelves as faithful ſubjects to his Majeſty.

I expect, at the ſame time, if any individual behaves himſelf as your printer has done, by aſperſing the characters of his Majeſty's ſervants, and others, in the moſt ſcurrilous, falſe, and ſcandalous manner, and by being the inſtigator of treaſon and rebellion againſt his Majeſty's crown and government, and you do not take ſuch ſteps as the law directs, to reſtrain ſuch offenders; I do then expect, you will not be ſurpriſed, if the military power interpoſes, to prevent the total diſſolution of all decency, good order, and government. But I promiſe the printer, on my honour, that if he will put himſelf and ſervants under my protection, they ſhall not meet with the leaſt inſult; but ſhall be permitted to print every occurrence that happens during theſe unhappy diſputes between the mother-country and her colonies, he only confining himſelf to truth, and repreſenting matters in a fair, candid, and impartial manner on both ſides.—This I hope will convince you, that I had nothing more in view, when I required Capt. Squire to ſeize the printer and types, than that the unhappy and deluded people may no more remain in the dark, concerning the preſent conteſt; but that they ſhould be furniſhed with a fair repreſentation of facts, which I know can never happen while the preſs remains under the controul of its preſent dictators.

October 3. 1775. DUNMORE."

"*London, Nov.* 30. We are informed from undoubted authority, that a reſpectable perſon from Weſt river in Maryland, about two months ago, viſited Gov. Dunmore at Norfolk. He was deputed from a large body of ſettlers there, (who ſome years ago emigrated from Germany, and are generally called *Palatines*), with a tender of 1500 diſciplined men to aſſiſt government, againſt the provincials; and were ready at a minute's warning, on being furniſhed with neceſſary arms and ammunition. He was kindly received by his Excellency, protected during his ſtay at Norfolk, and afterwards conducted from thence on his journey towards his ſettlement."

"*Whitehall, Dec.* 16. The Earl of Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, acquaints the Secretary of State, in a letter dated the 22d of October, on board the ſhip William, off Norfolk, that on the 15th his Lordſhip had landed with a party of between 70 and 80 men, in the neigbourhood of the town of Norfolk, and deſtroyed ſeventeen pieces of ordnance, and brought off two more, which had been carried away from that town by the rebels, and concealed in the country; that on the 17th he had landed again, at about eight miles from the town, and marched between two and three miles into the country, where about two hundred ſhirt-men were collected to oppoſe him, but who fled into the woods upon the appearance of the party, leaving behind them ſome ſmall arms and ammunition, which his Lordſhip carried off; that on the 19th he had again landed, and deſtroyed ten guns, and brought off ſix, at a diſtance of two miles from the coaſt; and on the 20th brought off ſix more; and on the 21ſt, the day before his Lordſhip's letter is dated, he had landed again, and brought off ten guns, and two cohorns, and about ſixty ſmall arms, and a great quantity of ball of different ſizes; and his Lordſhip imagines there are not any military ſtores remaining in the poſſeſſion of the rebels in that part of the province. In theſe ſeveral landings his Lordſhip made ſeven priſoners, among whom is one Robertſon, a deputy to the provincial convention; and one Mathews, a captain of the minute-men." *Lond. gaz.*

"*Norfolk, Oct.* 20. All our ports are ſhut up by the men of war, ſo that no veſſel is allowed to go from one river to another. This day two veſſels arrived here with a number of ſoldiers. Not a day paſſes but they are ſearching for arms

arms, ammunition, &c. and have taken priſoners, and ſecured on board the ſhips, ſeveral gentlemen whom they ſuſpect to have been moſt active on the American ſide of the queſtion. Moſt of the inhabitants have abandoned this town; moſt of the houſes and ſhops are empty; and if there is not a ſpeedy ſettlement, the whole of this province muſt be ruined."

The New-Yorkers, on Gov. Tryon's application to them for aſſurances of ſecurity if he ſhould ſtay among them, did not give ſuch ſatisfaction as he could depend on [589.]; and Lord William Campbell, Governor of South Carolina [547.], not thinking himſelf ſafe among the people of that province, went on board the Tamer man of war, lying in Rebellion road, in the afternoon of Friday, Sept. 15.

"*Charleſtown, Oct.* 6. The following are inſerted [in the South-Carolina gazette], by deſire of his Excellency the Governor.

"*In General Committee, Sept.* 29. May it pleaſe your Excellency, It is with great concern we find, that, for ſome days paſt, your Excellency has been pleaſed to withdraw yourſelf from Charleſtown, the ſeat of your government, and have retired on board the King's ſhip. The inconveniencies which muſt unavoidably ariſe to the people, deprived, by this ſtep, of that acceſs to your Excellency, which is abſolutely neceſſary for tranſacting public affairs, is apparent; and we ſubmit to your Excellency's conſideration, whether the retirement of our Governor to a King's ſhip, in this time of general diſquietude, when the minds of the people are filled with the greateſt apprehenſions for their ſafety, may not increaſe their alarm, and excite jealouſies of ſome premeditated deſign againſt them. We therefore intreat, that your Excellency will return to Charleſtown, the uſual place of reſidence of the Governor of South Carolina; and your Excellency may be aſſured, that whilſt, agreeable to your repeated and ſolemn declarations, your Excellency ſhall take no active part againſt the good people of this colony, in the preſent arduous ſtruggle for the preſervation of their civil liberties, we will, to the utmoſt of our power, ſecure to your Excellency that ſafety and reſpect for your perſon and character, which the inhabitants of Carolina have ever wiſhed to ſhew to the repreſentative of their ſovereign. By order of the general committee. HENRY LAURENS, Chairm. To Lord William Campbell, Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over his Majeſty's province of South Carolina, &c. on board his Majeſty's ſloop Tamer, in Rebellion road."

His Excellency's Anſwer.

"SIR, *Tamer, Rebellion road, Sept.* 30. I have received a meſſage, ſigned by you, from a ſet of people who ſtyle themſelves a *General Committee*. The preſumption of ſuch an addreſs, from a body aſſembled by no legal authority, and whom I muſt conſider as in actual and open rebellion againſt their ſovereign, can only be equalled by the outrages which obliged me to take refuge on board the King's ſhip in this harbour. It deſerves no anſwer, nor ſhould I have given it any, but to mark the hardineſs with which you have advanced, that I could ſo far forget my duty to my ſovereign and my country, as to promiſe I would take no active part in bringing the ſubverters of our glorious conſtitution and the real liberties of the people to a ſenſe of their duty. The unmanly arts that have already been uſed to prejudice me in the general opinion, may ſtill be employed by that committee: but I never will return to Charleſtown till I can ſupport the King's authority, and protect his faithful and loyal ſubjects. Whenever the people of this province will put it in my power to render them eſſential ſervice, I will, with pleaſure, embrace the opportunity, and think it a very happy one. I am, Sir, your moſt humble ſervant, WILLIAM CAMPBELL. To Henry Laurens, Eſq;"

"*London, Dec.* 14. A letter from a gentleman in Charleſtown mentions, that Juſtices Gordon, Savage, and Coſſet, Collector Haliday, and a great many other of the crown-officers in that province, are put into cloſe confinement, and denied the uſe of pen, ink and paper."

A copy of the intercepted letter of Dr Benjamin Church, phyſician or ſurgeon general of the provincial army, for which he is now lying in irons [592.], *to Mr Kane, major of brigade in Boſton, tranſlated by the ciphers uſed by the author.*

"I hope this will reach you. Three attempts have I made, without ſucceſs in effecting. In the laſt, the man was diſcovered in attempting his eſcape; but fortunately my letter was ſewed in the

waiſtband of his breeches. He was confined for a few days, during which time you may gueſs my feelings: but a little art and a little money ſettled the matter.

It is a month ſince my return from Philadelphia. I went by the way of Providence, to viſit my mother. The committee for warlike ſtores made me a formal tender of twelve pieces of cannon, eighteen and twenty-four pounders; they having taken a previous reſolution to make the offer to Gen. Ward. To make a merit of my ſervices, I ſent them down; and when they received them, they ſent them to Stoughton to be out of danger, even though they had formed the reſolution, as I before hinted, of fortifying Bunker's-hill; which, together with the cowardice of the clumſy Col. Griſh and Col. Scammon, was the lucky occaſion of their defeat. The affair happened before my return from Philadelphia. We loſt 165, killed then, and ſince dead of their wounds. 120 more now lie wounded: they will chiefly recover. They boaſt that you have 1300 killed and wounded in the action. You ſay the rebels loſt 1500; I ſuppoſe with equal truth.

The people of Connecticut are raving in the cauſe of liberty. A number of that colony, from the town of Stamford, robbed the King's ſtores near New-York, with ſome ſmall aſſiſtance which the New-Yorkers lent them. Theſe were growing turbulent. I counted 280 pieces of cannon, from three to twenty-four pounders, at Kingſbridge, which the committee had ſecured for the uſe of the colonies. The Jerſeys are not a whit behind Connecticut in zeal. The Philadelphians exceed them both. I ſaw 2000 men reviewed there by Gen. Lee, conſiſting of Quakers and other inhabitants, in uniforms, with 1000 riflemen and forty horſe, who, together, made a moſt warlike appearance. I mingled freely and frequently with the members of the continental congreſs. They were united and determined in oppoſition, and appeared aſſured of ſucceſs.

Now to come home: The oppoſition is become formidable: 18,000 brave and determined men, with Waſhington and Lee at their heads, are no contemptible enemy. Adj.-Gen. Gates is indefatigable in arraying the army. Proviſions are very plentiful; cloaths are manufactured in almoſt every town for the ſoldiers; twenty tons of gun-powder have lately arrived at Philadelphia, Connecticut, and Providence; and upwards of twenty tons are now in camp. Saltpetre is made in every colony. Powder-mills are erected, and conſtantly employed, in Philadelphia and New York. Volunteers of the firſt fortunes are daily flocking to the camp. 1000 riflemen will arrive in two or three days. Recruits are now levying to augment the army to 22,000; beſides, 10,000 of the militia of this government are appointed to appear on the firſt ſummons. The bills of all the colonies [probably thoſe iſſued by the congreſs] circulate freely, and are readily exchanged for caſh. Add to this, that, unleſs ſome plan of accommodation take place immediately, their harbours will ſwarm with privateers. An army will be raiſed in the middle colonies to take poſſeſſion of Canada. For the ſake of the miſerably convulſed empire, ſolicit peace. Repeal the acts, or Britain is undone. This advice is the reſult of a warm affection for my King and the realm. Remember, I never deceived you. Every article here ſent you is ſacredly true.

The papers will announce to you, that I am again a member for Boſton. You will there ſee our motley council. A general arrangement of officers will take place, except the chief, which will be ſuſpended but for a little while, to ſee what part Britain takes in conſequence of the late continental petition. A view to independence appears to be more and more general. Should Britain declare war againſt the colonies, they would be loſt for ever. Should Spain declare war againſt England, the colonies would declare a neutrality, which would doubtleſs produce a league offenſive and defenſive between them. For God's ſake, prevent it by a ſpeedy accommodation!

Writing this has employed me for a day. I have been to Salem, to reconnoitre; but could not eſcape the geeſe in the Capitol. To-morrow I ſet out for Newport, purpoſely to ſend you this. I write you fully, it being ſcarcely practicable to prevent diſcovery. I am out of place here by choice, and therefore out of pay; and am determined to be ſo, unleſs ſomething be offered in my way.

I wiſh you could contrive to write to me largely, in ciphers, by way of Newport, addreſſed to Tom Richards, merchant, incloſed under cover to me, intimating that I am a perfect ſtranger to you, but that being recommended to you

as a gentleman of honour, you took the liberty to incloſe it, intreating me to deliver it, as directed, to the perſon, living, as you are informed, in Cambridge. Sign ſome fictitious name, and ſend it to ſome confident friend in Newport, to be delivered to me at Watertown.

Make uſe of every precaution, or I periſh."

"*Cambridge, Oct.* 19. Since our laſt arrived in town, the Hon. Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Lynch, and Benjamin Harriſon, Eſqs, from Philadelphia, a committee from the continental congreſs; the Hon. Matthew Griſwold, Eſq; deputy-governor, and —— Wales, Eſq; of Connecticut; the Hon. Nicholas Cooke, Eſq; deputy-governor and commander in chief of Rhode Iſland; and the Hon. John Wentworth, Eſq; Preſident of the provincial congreſs of New Hampſhire. As the time for which the preſent army is raiſed will expire in two or three months, theſe gentlemen, with the members of the Hon. Council of this colony, are appointed to confer with Gen. Waſhington, on the ſubject of forming and eſtabliſhing another continental army, for the defence of the invaded rights of the United Colonies."

Orders of an alarming nature to the Americans, are ſaid to have been iſſued, and in part carried into execution by the men of war.

"*Camp at Cambridge. Oct.* 24. SIR, The incloſed information being of the higheſt importance, I thought it proper to tranſmit it to you with all diſpatch.—I am, &c. GEORGE WASHINGTON."

"On the ſervice of the United Colonies.
To the Hon. Nicholas Cooke, Eſq;
Deputy-Governor of Rhode Iſland,
at Providence. [433.]

Falmouth, Oct. 19.

The Canceaux ſhip of ſixteen guns, commanded by Capt. Mowet, a large ſhip, ſchooner, and a ſloop armed, anchored below the town the 17th inſt. At three o'clock p. m. they weighed, and came up, and anchored within gunſhot; and immediately Capt. Mowet ſent a letter on ſhore to this town, giving them two hours to move their families out, as he had orders to fire the town. The town immediately choſe a committee of three gentlemen, and ſent them on board, to know the reaſon of the town's being ſet on fire. He returned for anſwer, that his orders were, to ſet on fire all the ſea-port towns between Boſton and Halifax, and that he expected New York was then burnt to aſhes. He farther ſaid, that when he received orders from the Admiral, he deſired that he might ſhew ſome favour to the town of Falmouth, which the Admiral granted, (I ſuppoſe as Capt. Mowet was under particular obligations to the gentlemen in Falmouth, for civilities ſhewn him when in captivity among them), and which favour was, to ſpare the town till nine o'clock Wedneſday morning, in caſe we would ſend him off eight ſmall arms; which the town immediately did.

Wedneſday morning, being the 18th, the committee went on board of Capt. Mowet again, in order to ſave the town. He ſaid, that he would ſave the town till he heard from the Admiral, in caſe we would ſend off four carriage-guns, deliver up all our ſmall arms, ammunition, &c. and ſend four gentlemen of the town as heſtages; which the town would not do. About half paſt nine in the morning, he began to fire from the four armed veſſels, and in five minutes ſet fire to ſeveral houſes. He continued firing till after dark the ſame day, which deſtroyed the largeſt part of the town. He further informed the committee, that he ſhould proceed to Portſmouth, and deſtroy that place alſo. The foregoing is as near the facts as I could remember. Witneſs my hand, PEARSON JONES."

"SIR, *Proſpect-hill, Oct.* 24.

By an expreſs that arrived from Falmouth laſt night, we learn, that the greateſt part of the town was in aſhes. The enemy fired about three thouſand ſhot into it, and a large number of carcaſes and bombs, which ſet the town on fire. The enemy landed once or twice to ſet fire to the ſtores; they loſt eight or ten men in the attempt, and had one taken priſoner. The inhabitants got out a very conſiderable part of their furniture, no perſon killed or wounded during the whole time of firing. *The enemy produced orders from Adm. Greaves to burn all the towns from Boſton to Halifax.* Capt. Mowet informed the committee at Falmouth, there had arrived orders from England about ten days ſince, to burn all the ſea-port towns on the continent that would not lay down and deliver up their arms, and give hoſtages for their future good behaviour: he alſo acquainted them, that he expected the city of

New York was in aſhes. By theſe accounts we may learn what we have to expect. I think Newport ſhould be fortified in the beſt manner it can be. Doubtleſs the enemy will make an attempt to get the ſtock off the iſland. Death and deſolation ſeem to mark their footſteps. *Fight or be ſlaves* is the American motto; the firſt is by far the moſt eligible.

In haſte, I am, with eſteem, yours, &c.

NATHANIEL GREEN.

To the Hon. Nicholas Cooke, Eſq; in Providence (*per expreſs.*)"

Capt. Mowet's letter was as follows.

"*Canceaux, Falmouth, Oct* 16. 1775.

After ſo many premeditated attacks on the legal prerogative of the beſt of ſovereigns, after the repeated inſtances you have experienced in Britain's long forbearance of the rod of correction, and the manifeſt and paternal extention of her hands to embrace again and again, have been regarded as vain and nugatory; and in place of a dutiful and grateful return to your King, and parent-ſtate, you have been guilty of the moſt unpardonable rebellion, ſupported by the ambition of a ſet of deſigning men, whoſe inſidious views have cruelly impoſed on the credulity of their fellow-creatures; and at laſt have brought the whole into the ſame dilemma, which leads me to feel, not a little, the woes of the innocent, of them in particular, on the preſent occaſion, from my having it in orders to execute a juſt puniſhment on the town of Falmouth: in the name of which authority, I previouſly warn you to remove, without delay, the human ſpecies out of the ſaid town; for which purpoſe, I give you the time of two hours, at the period of which, a red pendant will be hoiſted at the main top-gallant-maſt head, with a gun. But ſhould your imprudence lead you to ſhew the leaſt reſiſtance, you will, in that caſe, free me of the humanity ſo ſtrongly pointed out in my orders, as well as my inclination. I do alſo obſerve, that all thoſe who did, on a former occaſion, flee to the King's ſhips under my command for protection, that the ſame door is open to receive them.

The officer who will deliver this letter, I expect to return immediately unmoleſted. I am, &c.

Maſſach. gaz. H. MOWET."

"*Williamsburgh, Oct.* 28. Thurſday laſt, in the morning, a large armed ſchooner, and three tenders, with ſoldiers on board, appeared off Hampton. Capt. Squire ſent a meſſage on ſhore, that he was come to burn the town. A company of the Virginian regulars, and another of the minute-men, prepared to receive him. Their landing was retarded by ſome boats ſunk acroſs the channel. They fired upon the town, however, without doing any damage; and it was returned, ſo as to make them move off. A diſpatch to this place obtained a reinforcement of a company of riflemen, and a colonel to command the whole. They reached Hampton by eight o'clock next morning, which is near forty miles. By this time the enemy, having cut through the boats in the night, were drawn up cloſe to the town, upon which they began to fire. This was immediately returned, ſo as to make them go off with ſuch precipitation as to leave a tender; which fell into our hands. The tender contained five white men, a woman, and two ſlaves; ſix ſwivels, ſeven muſkets, ſome ſmaller arms, and ſeveral papers belonging to a Lieutenant Wright, who made his eſcape on ſhore, and is now purſued. Two men in the veſſel were mortally wounded, and were thrown overboard. We expect their whole force againſt us to-day, and we are prepared for them. Before their attack they burnt a gentleman's undefended houſe not far from the town. —— The houſes burnt on the 18th of October, at Falmouth in Caſco bay, by Capt. Mowet, amount to 139 dwelling-houſes and 278 ſtore-houſes." *New-York gaz.*

On Monday, Oct. 16. Capt Haſtings, of a tranſport, with troops, from Boſton for New York, was ſtranded on Brigantine reach, on the New-Jerſey coaſt; and the officers, ſoldiers, &c. were taken priſoners.

"*Newport, Rhode-iſland, Oct.* 21. Laſt Monday the men of war, after firing on Briſtol and Papaquaſh, went into the ferry-way between Portſmouth and Briſtol, and fired near 200 ſhot at the houſes and people on each ſide: three ſhot ſtruck the houſe of Capt. Earl near the ferry, which is all the damage done there that we hear of; 60 ſhot, we hear, were fired at the windmill, without hitting it. From thence ſome of the ſhips tenders, and tranſports, went and ſurrounded Gould-iſland, and took a few ſheep; others went to Hope-iſland, and got two or three young cattle; thence they proceeded

ceeded to Dutch-iſland, in Narraganſet bay, where were upwards of 100 rams, part of which ſome people from Narraganſet took off, while the veſſels lay there; the remainder, about 60. the enemy took away. On the whole this fleet, by cruiſing and firing about our bays and harbours for near a fortnight, have got 40 head of cattle great and ſmall, and 180 ſheep, including the cattle bought of the Brentons, and 60 rams.—The ſame day the Glaſgow fired a number of cannon upon the town of Jamestown, without doing any damage except beating one ſtone out of a houſe.—The men of war, tenders, &c. came down the bay and anchored in this harbour laſt Thurſday.—Within fourteen days paſt the men of war have taken out, and cut away, the maſts, bowſprits, &c. of a number of ſmall ſloops and ferry-boats."

"*Philadelphia, Nov.* 3. In the congreſs held here on the 18th ult. the members came to the following reſolution.

"Reſolved, That a juſt and well authenticated account of the hoſtilities committed by the miniſterial troops and navy in America ſince laſt March, be collected, with proper evidence of the truth of the facts related, the number and value of the buildings deſtroyed by them; alſo the number and value of the veſſels inward and outward bound which have been ſeized by them ſince that period, as near as the number and value can be aſcertained; alſo the ſtock taken by them from different parts of the continent: That Mr Deane, and Mr J. Adams, and Mr Wythe, be a committee for the purpoſe.

CHARLES THOMSON, Sec."

'Tis pity that they did not likewiſe direct an account to be taken of the ſeverities exerciſed againſt the friends of government.

A letter from Virginia, of Sept. 8. ſays, "The people of this colony are proceeding in the moſt violent and unjuſtifiable manner. Every perſon who refuſes to join their independent companies, and ſupport the cauſe, as they term it, is ſure to be perſonally inſulted and abuſed, his houſe levelled with the ground, and his furniture deſtroyed, by a ſet of fellows habited as Indians. A few Sundays ago I was a ſpectator of a daring outrage and abuſe to a very worthy clergyman here. He had ſilently paſſed over the riots, &c. committed by thoſe lawleſs people in his pariſh, but took that opportunity to make ſome remarks, in his diſcourſe, on the diſorders that prevailed, and in the mildeſt terms endeavoured to convince them of their error, and to perſuade them to peace and obedience. Before he concluded his ſermon, ſome of thoſe gentry raiſed a confuſion in the church; and, on the clergyman's coming out, they ſeized him, and beat him in a moſt cruel manner, and obliged him on his knees to aſk pardon of America in their preſence, for the liberty he had taken with its proceedings in his ſermon. After this, and every other mortifying conceſſion they could extort from him, they ſuffered him to go home, where he lies in a dangerous way."

"*New-York, Sept.* 30. We hear from Dutcheſs county, that laſt Saturday ſe'ennight James Smith, Eſq; a judge of the court of common pleas for that county, was very handſomely tarred and feathered, for acting in open contempt of the reſolves of the county-committee; as was Coen Smith of the ſaid place for the like behaviour: they were carted five or ſix miles into the country. The judge undertook to ſue for, and recover, the arms taken from the Tories by order of the ſaid committee, and actually committed one of the committee who aſſiſted at diſarming the Tories; which enraged the people ſo much, that they roſe, and reſcued the priſoner, and poured out their reſentment on this villanous retailer of the law."

"*London, Nov.* 25. The laſt Georgia papers brought an account of the populace having ſeized Mr Brown, a merchant at Auguſta, and tarred and feathered him. The poor gentleman was a long time under their diſcipline, and ſuffered greatly."

"*Norfolk, Sept.* 13. Arrived here, on Friday laſt, the King-fiſher ſloop of war, who brings orders from Adm. Greaves, by which Capt. Macartney is ſuperſeded in the command of the Mercury [560], and is now in confinement. Lieutenant Graham is appointed to ſucceed him." *Virg. Gaz.*

"*Williamsburgh, Oct.* 24. Capt. Macartney, of the Mercury man of war, has had his trial at boſton, and is honourably acquitted."

Many captures are ſaid to have been made on both ſides; but that the balance is greatly in favour of the provincials, ſeveral proviſion and ſtore ſhips deſigned for the King's troops having fallen into their hands.

An

An officer at Boſton writes to a friend at Edinburgh thus, dated, Nov. 29. "Very little material has ocurred here ſince 17th June. We have cannonaded the rebels, ſeveral times, from our works, pretty ſmartly; which they have returned to the beſt of their ability; by which means they killed and wounded a few men, and ſhot off Capt. Paulet of 59th regiment's leg. What execution may have been done amongſt them is uncertain; deſerters from them ſay it is conſiderable: however, as that kind of work is only childrens play, it has been diſcontinued, by mutual conſent, for a long time. A landing was made in the face of their principal work, by a ſmall body of light infantry, under Gen. Clinton's command, in order to ſeize ſome live ſtock; which was accordingly done, without loſing a man, though the rebels fired ſeveral cannon-ſhot from their works, and ſome muſquetry. This affair ſerved to give freſh meat and ſpirit to the ſoldiers, and diſmay to the Yankies, as it is pretty certain they ſuffered from a cannonade, under cover of which our troops landed. It is about a month ſince this happened; ever ſince we have been remarkably quiet, and have been now ſome few days in winter quarters. Winter has ſet in here, and we have the proſpect of a ſevere one."

"*Boſton, Nov.* 30. A number of officers and ladies have eſtabliſhed a theatre in this town, for their own amuſement, and the benevolent purpoſe of contributing to the relief of diſtreſſed ſoldiers, their widows and children. The theatre will be opened once a-week, and tragedies and comedies will be performed alternately."

Three Proclamations, all dated, at the head quarters, Boſton, Oct. 28.

1. "By his Excellency the Hon. WILLIAM HOWE, Major-General and Commander in Chief of all his Majeſty's forces within the Colonies lying on the Atlantic ocean, from Nova Scotia to Weſt Florida, inclusive, &c. &c.

WHEREAS ſeveral of the inhabitants of this town have lately abſconded, to join, it is apprehended, his Majeſty's enemies, aſſembled in open rebellion; I do, by virtue of the power and authority in me veſted by his Majeſty, forbid any perſon or perſons whatever, not belonging to the navy, to paſs from hence by water or otherwiſe, from the date hereof, without my order or permiſſion given in writing. Any perſon or perſons detected in the attempt, or who may be retaken, upon ſufficient proof thereof, ſhall be liable to military execution; and thoſe who eſcape ſhall be treated as traitors, by ſeizure of their goods and effects. All maſters of tranſports or other veſſels ſailing from hence, unleſs under the immediate order of Samuel Greaves, Vice-Admiral of the White, or officers commanding his Majeſty's ſhips of war on this ſervice for the time being, are hereby ſtrictly forbidden to receive any perſon or perſons on board, without my order or permiſſion in writing. Any maſter or others detected in diſobeying this proclamation, ſhall be liable to ſuch fine or impriſonment as may be adjudged."

2. "By his Excellency William Howe, &c.

WHEREAS there is reaſon to believe, that many perſons leaving this town by permiſſion, have, contrary to orders, conveyed away large ſums in ſpecie, to the great inconvenience of this garriſon, and detriment of his Majeſty's ſervice in general; I do hereby give notice, That any perſon having leave to depart from hence by water or otherwiſe, who ſhall be detected in an attempt to carry away more than five pounds in ſpecie, as heretofore allowed, without firſt obtaining my particular permiſſion for ſo doing, ſhall forfeit the whole ſum diſcovered, and ſuffer ſuch other fine and impriſonment as may be adjudged, according to the degree of the offence. And for the more effectual diſcovery of thoſe who ſhall preſume to act contrary to this proclamation, I do hereby order, that one half of the monies duly detected on information, be given to the informer."

3. "By his Excellency William Howe, &c.

WHEREAS it is become the indiſpenſable duty of every loyal and faithful citizen, to contribute all in his power for the preſervation of order and good government within the town of Boſton, I do hereby recommend, that the inhabitants do immediately aſſociate themſelves, to be formed into companies, under proper officers, ſelected by me from among the aſſociators, to be ſolely employed within the precincts of the town, and for the purpoſes above mentioned.

That this aſſociation be opened in the council-chamber, under the direction of the

the Hon. Peter Oliver, Foster Hutchinson, and William Brown, Esqs, on Monday the 30th day of October 1775, and continued for four days following, that no one may plead ignorance of the same.

Out of the number of persons voluntarily entering into this association, all such as are able to discharge the duty required of them, shall be properly armed, and an allowance of fuel and provisions be made to those requiring the same, equal to what is issued to his Majesty's troops within the garrison."

The proposed Association.

"WE, his Majesty's loyal subjects of the town of Boston, being sensible of the duty incumbent on us to do every thing in our power to support order and good government, as well as to contribute our aid to the internal security of the town, now take this opportunity to profess our firm allegiance to his Majesty, and entire obedience to his government and laws. From a disposition to continue quiet and obedient subjects, we have generally neglected the use of arms, while those of different characters and sentiments have been diligently endeavouring to improve themselves in that art. Upon these principles we have remained in, or fled to this town: neither do we wish or design to leave it.

We consider it as our strongest duty, to contribute our aid in promoting the peace, order, and security of the town; and are willing to be employed to these good purposes, in the ways and means suited to our capacities. To that end we chearfully accept the offers of his Excellency, and now voluntarily associate for the purposes mentioned in his proclamation, hereby promising, "That such of us as he shall think proper, or able, to perform the duties therein required, will be formed into companies as therein mentioned; and will, to the utmost of our power, faithfully perform those services, and punctually discharge the trust reposed in us: and that such as are not able to go through those duties, will freely contribute our proportions, according to our abilities, to raise a sum of money for promoting this salutary purpose, to be applied to the use of those who are able, in such manner as the General, or those he may appoint, may think proper."

"*Philadelphia, Oct.* 30. The people in Maryland and Virginia have begun to dig up their tobacco-houses, and lixiviate the earth for nitre; and, what would seem incredible, had a person of less credibility than Dr Boyd of Baltimore related it, two ounces of saltpetre have been obtained from two quarts of loam. This success has excited a perfect enthusiasm throughout the country, and the manufacture of nitre will be every where domestic. I know of three lead-mines myself, whose ore yields 75 per cent.; and we have assurance of as much copper from the Jerseys as will furnish us with as many field-pieces as we can wish to employ. If the unnatural contest continues, we shall not remain tame spectators of the bombardment of defenceless towns. We have timber and metal, and *mettle* enough to make use of them."

"*Philadelphia, Nov.* 6. The committee appointed by our House of Representatives [495.], for the purpose of inquiring what progress has been made in the manufacturing of saltpetre within this province, have received from Messr. Garver and Shoudy, of York Town, 117 pounds of saltpetre, made by them in that town, for which they have been allowed the liberal price ordered to be given by the assembly. The saltpetre is very pure, and well refined; it is said they have as much more ready to deliver, and that they can make fifty pounds per week."

In the Massachusets Gazette of Nov. 30. there is a long act of the newly-established general assembly [550.] of that colony, dated, Waterton, Nov. 13. intitled, *An act for encouraging the fitting out of armed vessels to defend the sea-coast of America, and for erecting a court to try and condemn all vessels that shall be found infesting the same.* — We insert the preamble, viz.

"WHEREAS the present administration of G. Britain, being divested of justice and humanity, and strangers to that magnanimity, and sacred regard for liberty, which inspired their predecessors, have been endeavouring, through a series of years, to establish a system of despotism over the American colonies, and, by their venal and corrupt measures, have so extended their influence over the British parliament, that, by a prostituted majority, it is now become a political engine of slavery: And whereas the military tools of these our unnatural enemies, while restrained by the united forces of the American colonies from proceeding in their sanguinary career of devastation

vaſtation and ſlaughter, are infeſting the ſea-coaſts with armed veſſels, and daily endeavouring to diſtreſs the inhabitants, by burning their towns, and deſtroying their dwellings with their ſubſtance, plundering live ſtock, and making captures of proviſion and other veſſels, being the property of ſaid inhabitants: And whereas their Majeſties K. William and Q. Mary, by the royal charter of this colony, "for themſelves, their heirs, and ſucceſſors, did grant, eſtabliſh, and ordain, that, in the abſence of the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor of the colony, a majority of the Council ſhall have full power, by themſelves, or by any chief commander, or other officer, or officers, to be appointed by them from time to time, for the ſpecial defence of their ſaid province or territory, to aſſemble in martial array, and put in warlike poſture the inhabitants of their ſaid province or territory, and to lead and conduct them, and with them to encounter, expulſe, reſiſt, and purſue, by force of arms, as well by ſea as by land, within or without the limits of their ſaid province or territory; and alſo to kill, ſlay, deſtroy, and conquer, by all fitting ways, enterpriſes, and means, whatſoever, all and every ſuch perſons, as ſhould, at any time thereafter, attempt or enterpriſe the deſtruction, invaſion, detriment, or annoyance of their ſaid province or territory; and to take and ſurpriſe, by all ways and means whatſoever, all and every perſon and perſons, with their ſhips, arms, ammunition, and other goods, as ſhould, in a hoſtile manner, invade, or attempt the invading, conquering, or annoying, of their ſaid province or territory:" And whereas it is expreſsly reſolved by the Grand Congreſs of America [497], "That each colony, at their own expence, make ſuch proviſion, by armed veſſels or otherwiſe, as their reſpective aſſemblies, conventions, or committees of ſafety, ſhall judge expedient, and ſuitable to their circumſtances and ſituations, for the protection of their harbours, and navigation on the ſea-coaſts, againſt all unlawful invaſion, attacks and depredation, from cutters and ſhips of war;" and it is the duty and intereſt of this colony to exert itſelf, as well for the purpoſe of keeping ſupplies from the enemy, as for thoſe mentioned in the paragraphs of the charter and reſolve now recited:

"Therefore, for the more effectual carrying into execution the purpoſes aforeſaid, BE it enacted," &c. &c.

The ſame gazette contains a proclamation for a public thankſgiving, dated, Watertown, Nov. 20. the preamble of which runs thus.

"Although, in conſequence of the *unnatural*, *cruel*, and *barbarous* meaſures, adopted and purſued by the Britiſh adminiſtration, great and diſtreſſing calamities are brought upon our oppreſſed country, and on this colony in particular; we feel the dreadful effects of *civil war*, by which America is ſtained with the blood of her valiant ſons, who have bravely fallen in the laudable defence of our rights and privileges; — our *capital*, once the *ſeat of juſtice*, opulence, and virtue, is unjuſtly wreſted from its proper owners, who are obliged to flee from the iron hand of tyranny, or are held in the unrelenting arms of oppreſſion; — our ſea-ports greatly diſtreſſed, and towns burnt by the foes, who have acted the part of barbarous incendiaries: — And although the wiſe and holy Governor of the world, has, in his righteous providence, ſent droughts into this colony, and waſting ſickneſs into many of our towns: — Yet we have the greateſt reaſon to adore and praiſe the Supreme Diſpoſer of events, who deals infinitely better with us than we deſerve; and, amidſt all his judgements, hath remembered mercy, he cauſing the voice of health again to be heard amongſt us; — inſtead of famine, affording to an ungrateful people a competency of the neceſſaries and comforts of life; in remarkably preſerving and protecting our troops, when in apparent danger, while our *enemies*, with all their *boaſted* ſkill and ſtrength, have met with *loſs*, *diſappointment*, and *defeat*; — and, in the courſe of his good providence, the Father of Mercies hath beſtowed upon us many other favours, which call for our grateful acknowledgements:

Therefore we have thought fit, with the advice of the Council and Houſe of Repreſentatives, to appoint Thurſday the 23d day of November inſtant, to be obſerved as a day of public thankſgiving throughout this colony; hereby calling upon miniſters and people, to meet for religious worſhip on ſaid day, and devoutly to offer up their unfeigned praiſes to Almighty God, the ſource and benevolent beſtower of all good, for his affording the neceſſary means of ſubſiſtence, though our commerce has been prevented,

prevented, and the ſupply from the fiſhery denied us," &c. &c.

Given under our hands, at the Council-Chamber in Watertown, the fourth day of November, in the year of the Lord, One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventy-five.

By their Honours command,
PEREZ MORTON, Dep'y Secr'y.

James Otis. Walter Spooner. Caleb Cuſhing. Joſeph Whitcomb. Jedidiah Foſter. James Preſcot. Eldad Taylor. Benja. Lincoln. Michael Farley. Joſeph Palmer. Samuel Holten. Jabez Fiſher. Moſes Gill. Benja. White. [495.]

GOD Save the PEOPLE!

THE following paper is of the laſt importance, and therefore is inſerted at full length. It undoubtedly contains the outlines of the plan intended to be carried into execution, in caſe a reconciliation with G. Britain cannot be obtained on terms of exemption from taxation by the Britiſh parliament.

The copy from whence this was printed was addreſſed particularly to the Provincial Congreſs of North Carolina; but the ſame was, without doubt, ſubmitted to the conſideration of every other Provincial Congreſs, as the preamble clearly ſhews. *Gent. Mag.*

THE provincial congreſs of ——— are to view the following Articles, as a ſubject which will be propoſed to the Continental Congreſs at their next ſeſſion; it therefore becomes the duty of the Provincial Delegates now aſſembled, to inſtruct the gentlemen whom they ſhall make choice of to repreſent them in the next Continental Congreſs, what they are to expreſs to be the ſenſe of this province.—The former Delegates beg, that this plan may be conſidered, not as having had the ſanction of the Continental Congreſs, or as recommended by them, or as expreſſing the ſentiments of the Delegates who repreſented this province in the laſt Continental Congreſs; but wiſh they may be diſpaſſionately debated, and approved or condemned upon their own intrinſic merit.

Articles of Confederation, and Perpetual Union, entered into by the Delegates of the ſeveral Colonies of New Hampſhire, &c. met in General Congreſs at Philadelphia, May 10. 1775.

Art. I. THE name of this Confederacy ſhall henceforth be, THE UNITED COLONIES OF NORTH AMERICA.

II. The ſaid united colonies hereby ſeverally enter into a firm league of friendſhip with each other, binding on themſelves and their poſterity, for their common defence againſt their enemies, for the ſecurity of their liberties and properties, the ſafety of their perſons and families, and their mutual and general welfare.

III. That each colony ſhall enjoy and retain as much as it may think fit of its own preſent laws, cuſtoms, rights, privileges, and peculiar juriſdictions, within its own limits, and may amend its own conſtitution, as ſhall ſeem beſt to its own aſſembly or convention.

IV. That, for the more convenient management of general intereſts, delegates ſhall be elected annually in each colony, to meet in general congreſs, at ſuch time and place as ſhall be agreed on in the next preceding congreſs. Only where particular circumſtances do not make its deviation neceſſary, it is underſtood to be a rule, That each ſucceeding Congreſs ſhall be held in a different colony, till the whole number be gone through, and ſo in perpetual rotation; and that, accordingly, the next Congreſs after the preſent ſhall be held at Annapolis, in Maryland.

V. That the power and duty of the Congreſs ſhall extend to the determining on war and peace; the entering into alliances; the reconciliation with Great Britain; the ſettling all diſputes and differences between colony and colony, if ſuch ſhould ariſe; and the planting of new colonies where proper. The Congreſs ſhall alſo make ſuch general ordinances, thought neceſſary to the general welfare, as particular aſſemblies cannot be competent to; viz. thoſe that may relate to our general commerce, or general currency, to the eſtabliſhment of ports, and the regulation of our common forces. The Congreſs ſhall alſo have the appointment of all officers, civil and military, appertaining to the general confederacy, ſuch as General, Treaſurer, Secretary, &c.

VI. All charges of war, and all other general expences to be incurred for the common welfare, ſhall be defrayed out of a common treaſury, which is to be ſupplied by each colony, in proportion to its male polls between ſixteen and ſixty years of age. The taxes for paying

that proportion are to be laid and levied by the laws of each colony.

VII. The number of delegates to be elected and fent to the Congrefs by each colony, fhall be regulated from time to time, by the number of fuch poll returned, fo as that one delegate be allowed for every five thoufand polls; and the delegates are to bring with them to every Congrefs, an authenticated return of the number of polls in their refpective colonies, which is to be taken for the purpofes above mentioned.

VIII. At every meeting of the Congrefs, one half of the members returned, exclufive of proxies, fhall be neceffary to make a quorum; and each delegate at the Congrefs fhall have a vote in all cafes, and, if neceffarily abfent, fhall be allowed to appoint any other delegate from the fame colony to be his proxy, who may vote for him.

IX. An Executive Council fhall be appointed by the Congrefs, out of their own body, confifting of twelve perfons; of whom, in the firft appointments, one third, viz. four, fhall be for one year, four for two years, and four for three years; and, as the faid terms expire, the vacancies fhall be filled up by appointments for three years, whereby one third of the members will be changed annually, and each perfon who has ferved the faid term of three years as a Counfellor, fhall have a refpite of three years before he can be elected again. This Council, of whom two thirds fhall be a quorum, in the recefs of the Congrefs, is to execute what fhall have been enjoined thereby, to manage the general continental bufinefs and intereft, to receive applications from foreign countries, to prepare matters for the confideration of the Congrefs, to fill up *(pro tmp.)* continental offices that fall vacant, and to draw on the General Treafurer for fuch monies as may be neceffary for general fervices, and appropriated by the Congrefs to fuch fervices.

X. No colony fhall engage in an offenfive war with any nation of Indians, without the confent of the Congrefs, or Great Council above mentioned, who are firft to confider the juftice and neceffity of fuch war.

XI. A perpetual alliance, offenfive and defenfive, is to be entered into, as foon as may be, with the Six Nations, their limits afcertained, and to be fecured to them, their lands not to be encroached on, nor any private or colony purchafes made of them hereafter to be held good, or any contract for lands to be made, but between the Great Council of the Indians at Onandoga and the General Congrefs. The boundaries and lands of all the other Indians fhall alfo be afcertained, and fecured to them, in the fame manner, and perfons appointed to refide among them, in proper diftricts, who fhall take care to prevent injuftice in the trade with them, and be enabled, at our general expence, by occafional fmall fupplies, to relieve their perfonal wants and diftreffes; and all purchafes from them fhall be by the Congrefs, for the general advantage and benefit of the United Colonies.

XII. As all new inftitutions may have imperfections, which only time and experience can difcover, it is agreed, that the General Congrefs, from time to time, fhall propofe fuch amendments of this conftitution as may be found neceffary; which being approved by a majority of the colony-affemblies, fhall be equally binding with the reft of the articles of this confederation.

XIII. Any and every colony from Great Britain, upon the continent of North America, not at prefent engaged in our affociation, may, upon application, and joining the faid affociation, be received into the confederation, viz. Quebec, St John's, Nova Scotia, Bermuda, and the Eaft and Weft Floridas; and fhall thereupon be entitled to all the advantages of our union, mutual affiftance, and commerce.

Thefe Articles fhall be propofed to the feveral provincial conventions, or aflemblies, to be by them confidered; and, if approved, they are advifed to empower their delegates to agree, and ratify the fame in the enfuing Congrefs; after which, the union thereby eftablifhed is to continue firm, till the terms of reconciliation propofed in the petition of the laft Congrefs to the King [431.], are agreed to; till the acts fince made, reftraining the American commerce and fifheries, are repealed; till reparation is made for the injury done to Bofton, by fhutting up its ports, for burning of Charleftown, and for the expences of this unjuft war; and till all the Britifh troops are withdrawn from America. On the arrival of thefe events, the colonies are to return to their former connection and friendfhip with Great Britain;

tain; but, on failure thereof, this confederation to be perpetual.

WHEREAS it hath pleaſed God to bleſs theſe countries with a moſt plentiful harveſt, whereby much corn, and other proviſions, can be ſpared to foreign nations, who may want the ſame;

Reſolved, That after the expiration of ſix months, from the 20th of July inſtant, being the day appointed, by a late act of parliament of Great Britain, for reſtraining the trade of the confederate colonies, all the cuſtom-houſes therein, (if the ſaid act be not firſt repealed), ſhall be ſhut up, and all the officers of the ſame diſcharged from the execution of their ſeveral functions; and all the ports of the ſaid colonies are hereby declared to be thenceforth open to the ſhips of every ſtate in Europe that will admit our commerce, and protect it; who may bring in, and expoſe to ſale, free of all duties, their reſpective produce and manufactures, and every kind of merchandiſe, excepting teas, and the merchandiſe of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Britiſh Weſt-India iſlands.

Reſolved, That we will, to the utmoſt of our power, maintain and ſupport this freedom of commerce for two years certain after its commencement, any reconciliation between us and Great Britain nothwithſtanding, and as much longer beyond that term as the late acts of parliament for reſtraining the commerce and fiſheries, and diſallowing the laws and charters of any of the colonies, ſhall continue unrepealed.

The above confederacy was laid before the Provincial Congreſs, held at Hillſborough, the 21ſt of Auguſt laſt; when, after mature conſideration of the ſame, the Congreſs came to the following reſolution thereon.

The order of the day being read, for taking into conſideration a paper purporting a confederation of the United Colonies, Reſolved, the Congreſs reſolve into a committee of the whole Houſe.

The Congreſs reſolved into a committee of the whole Houſe accordingly, and unanimouſly choſe the Rev. Mr Pattillo chairman; and, after ſome time ſpent therein, came to a reſolution thereon. — On motion, Mr Preſident reſumed the chair, and Mr Chairman reported as follows, viz.

That the committee have taken into conſideration the plan of general confederation between the United Colonies, and are of opinion, that the ſame is not at preſent eligible; and it is alſo the opinion of the committee, that the delegates of this province ought to be inſtructed, not to conſent to any plan of confederation which may be offered in an enſuing Congreſs, until the ſame ſhall be laid before, and approved by the Provincial Congreſs. That the preſent aſſociation ought to be further relied on for bringing about a reconciliation with the parent-ſtate, and a further confederacy ought only to be adopted in caſe of the laſt neceſſity.

"*Philadelphia, Nov.* 9. This day the committee appointed to prepare and bring in a draught of inſtructions for the delegates of this province in congreſs, reported an eſſay for that purpoſe; which being read, and conſidered, was agreed to by the Houſe, and is as follows, viz.

"Gentlemen,

The truſt repoſed in you is of ſuch a nature, and the modes of executing it may be ſo diverſified in the courſe of your deliberations, that it is ſcarcely poſſible to give you inſtructions reſpecting it.

We, therefore, in general, direct, That you, or any four of you, meet in congreſs the delegates of the ſeveral colonies now aſſembled in this city, and any ſuch delegates as may meet in congreſs next year; that you conſult together on the critical and alarming ſtate of public affairs; that you exert your utmoſt endeavours to agree upon, and recommend ſuch meaſures as you ſhall judge to afford the beſt proſpect of obtaining redreſs of American grievances, and reſtoring that union and harmony between Great Britain and the Colonies ſo eſſential to the welfare and happineſs of both countries.

Though the oppreſſive meaſures of the Britiſh parliament and adminiſtration have compelled us to reſiſt their violence by force of arms, yet we ſtrictly enjoin you, that you, in behalf of this colony, diſſent from, and utterly reject, any propoſitions, ſhould ſuch be made, that may cauſe or lead to a ſeparation from the mother-country, or a change of the form of this government.

You are directed to make report of your proceedings to this Houſe.

Signed by order of the Houſe,

JOHN MORTON, Speaker."

PARLIAMENT. [616.]

On the 26th of October, the firſt day of the ſeſſion, Mr Speaker preſented to the Commons, "The addreſs, petition, and memorial, of the repreſentatives of the freeholders of the province of Nova Scotia, in general aſſembly," [491.], which he had received, during the receſs, in a letter, by the poſt, dated *Halifax, Nova Scotia, July* 4. 1775, and ſigned *Wm Neſbitt, Speaker*. Which letter and addreſs were both read, and ordered to be taken into conſideration on the 6th of November: on which day they were referred to a committee of the whole houſe. This committee ſat on the 15th and 23d of November. On the 20th the agent for the colony was ordered to attend the committee on the 23d, and ſeveral accounts relating to the colony were ordered to be laid before the Houſe. The reſolutions of the committee were reported on the 29th, viz.——"That it is the opinion of this committee,

1. That the propoſition contained in the addreſs, petition, and memorial, of the Houſe of Aſſembly of the province of Nova Scotia, of granting to his Majeſty, in perpetuity, a duty of poundage, *ad valorem*, upon all commodities imported into the province of Nova Scotia, not being the produce of the Britiſh dominions in Europe and America, (Bay ſalt excepted), the ſaid duty to be diſpoſed of by parliament, is fit to be accepted; and that the amount of the ſaid duty ſhould be eight pounds per centum, upon all ſuch commodities.

2. That when and as ſoon as an act or acts ſhall have been paſſed by the general aſſembly of the ſaid province of Nova Scotia, conformable to the foregoing reſolution, and his Majeſty ſhall have given his royal approbation to ſuch act or acts, all and every duty, tax, and aſſeſſment, upon any goods, wares, or merchandiſe, imported into the ſaid province, and which duty, tax, and aſſeſſment, hath been impoſed and levied within the ſaid province, by any act or acts of parliament now in force, ought to ceaſe and be diſcontinued; and that, for ſo long as the act or acts of aſſembly for granting to his Majeſty the ſaid poundage-duty ſhall continue in force, no other or further duties, taxes, or aſſeſſments, ought to be impoſed or levied by act of parliament within the ſaid province, except ſuch duties only as it may be expedient to continue to levy, or to impoſe, for the regulation of commerce, the nett produce of the duties laſt mentioned to be carried to the account of the ſaid province.

3. That it will be adviſeable to admit a direct importation into the province of Nova Scotia, by his Majeſty's ſubjects, in ſhips and veſſels qualified by law, of all wines, oranges, lemons, currants, and raiſins, the growth and produce of any foreign country whatſoever, provided ſuch wines, oranges, lemons, currants, and raiſins, be imported directly from the place of their growth and produce; and provided alſo, that the ſaid commodities be not imported into any other port or place within the ſaid province except the port of Halifax."

A motion was made to adjourn the further conſideration of the report till the Wedneſday following; but it paſſed in the negative.--Then the reſolutions being read a ſecond time, were agreed to by the Houſe; and a bill was ordered to be brought in upon them.

Three motions were then ſucceſſively put, viz.

1. "That when the public exigencies of the ſtate may require any further ſupplies from the province of Nova Scotia, then, according to the prayer of the petition of the ſaid province, ſuch requiſitions ſhould be made as have been formerly practiſed in North America, whereby the ſaid province may have an opportunity of ſhewing their duty and attachment for their ſovereign, and their ſenſe of the cauſe for which ſuch requiſitions were made, by means of which alone his Majeſty can be made acquainted with the true ſenſe of his people in that diſtant province?"—The previous queſtion being put upon this motion, it paſſed in the negative.

2. "That it appears to this Houſe, that the granting the power to the colony of Nova Scotia, of providing for the ſupply of the future exigencies of government by the mode of requiſition formerly uſed in North America, was the condition on which the colony of Nova Scotia did make the offer of granting the revenue in their petition expreſſed?"—It paſſed in the negative.

3. "That although the terms of the reſolution of this Houſe of the 27th day of February 1775 [122.], relative to the colonies in America, do ſeem literally to require, that the offer therein mentioned ſhould be made by the Governor, Coun-

cil,

cil, and Aſſembly, or General Court, of any province, the true intent and meaning of the ſame does not require any thing more, in order to be accepted by this Houſe, than that it ſhould be made by the Houſe of Repreſentatives of ſuch province; and alſo, though the ſaid reſolution ſeems to require, that the ſaid offer ſhould be a proportion, according to the condition, circumſtances, and ſituation, of ſuch province; yet that the true meaning of the ſaid reſolution doth purport, that any duties which this Houſe ſhall approve, will be accepted as a compliance with the ſaid reſolution, although no grounds for determining the ſaid proportion be laid before this Houſe; and alſo, although the ſaid reſolution does ſeem literally to require, that they ſhould engage to make proviſion for the ſupport of the civil government, and adminiſtration of juſtice, in ſuch province, the ſame doth not require, that any other proviſion for civil government ſhould be made than what ſuch province hath been accuſtomed to make?"—It paſſed in the negative.

On the 1ſt of November a motion was made in the Houſe of Commons, "That there be laid before this Houſe, an account of the laſt returns of the number of effective men in the ſeveral regiments and corps in his Majeſty's ſervice ſerving in North America, together with a ſtate of the numbers of ſick and wounded, diſtinguiſhing the ſeveral places where the ſaid troops are ſtationed?" It paſſed in the negative.

"Ordered, That there be laid before this Houſe, an account of the tranſports taken up, or contracted for, ſince September 1773, to September 1775; deſcribing the tonnage, and what has been paid, or contracted to be paid, for the ſame."

A motion was then made, "That there be laid before this Houſe, an account of the artillery, arms, ordnance, and military ſtores, iſſued from the office of ordnance, ſent to America, from the 1ſt of September 1773, to the 1ſt of September 1775?" It paſſed in the negative.

On the 7th a motion was made in the Houſe of Commons, "That a committee be appointed to draw up an addreſs to his Majeſty, humbly requeſting, that he will authoriſe the commiſſioners, who may be impowered to act in America (for the gracious purpoſes expreſſed in his Majeſty's ſpeech from the throne), to receive propoſals for reconciliation from any general convention, congreſs, or other collective body, that ſhall be found moſt perfectly to convey the ſentiments of one or more of the ſeveral continental colonies, ſuſpending all inquiry into the legal or illegal forms under which ſuch colony or colonies may be diſpoſed to treat, as the moſt effectual means to prevent the further effuſion of blood, and to reconcile the honour and permanent intereſt of Great Britain, with the requiſitions of his Majeſty's American ſubjects?" It paſſed in the negative.

On a motion made in the Houſe of Commons, Nov. 16. the 1ſt, 4th, and 5th chapters of the ſtatute *De tallagio non concedendo*, 34° Edw. I. were read. Then a motion was made, and the queſtion being propoſed, "That leave be given to bring in a bill for compoſing the preſent troubles, and for quieting the minds of his Majeſty's ſubjects in America?" and the previous queſtion being put, it paſſed in the negative.

On motions made in the Houſe of Commons, Nov. 20. three acts were read, viz. 14° Geo. III. to diſcontinue the landing of goods at Boſton; 15° Geo. III. to reſtrain the trade of the provinces of Maſſachuſet's-bay, &c.; and 15° Geo. III. to reſtrain the trade of the colonies of New Jerſey, &c.; alſo ſo much of the King's ſpeech [563.] as relates to giving authority to certain perſons to grant pardons in America. Then leave was given to bring in a bill, to prohibit all trade and intercourſe with the colonies of New Hampſhire, Maſſachuſet's-bay, Rhode iſland, Connecticut, New York, New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, the three lower counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, during the continuance of the preſent rebellion within the ſaid colonies reſpectively; for repealing, &c. [three acts, thoſe which had been read juſt before]; and to enable his Majeſty to appoint commiſſioners, and to iſſue proclamations, in the caſes, and for the purpoſes, therein to be mentioned: and the Lord North, Lord George Germaine, Mr Charles Townſhend, the Lord Beauchamp, Mr Cornwall, Mr Attorney-General, Mr Solicitor-General, Sir Grey Cooper, and Mr Robinſon, were ordered to prepare and bring it in.

On the 22d of November, the Commons ordered an addreſs to be preſented to

to the King, to give directions for laying before the Houſe the petition to his Majeſty from the General Congreſs in America, which was delivered to the Earl of Dartmouth on the 1ſt of September by Richard Penn and Arthur Lee, Eſqs, [431.].—Mr John Pownal preſented a copy of the petition, Dec. 1. Of which the title was read, and it was ordered to lie on the table, to be peruſed by the members.

Immediately after it was reſolved, Nov. 22. to addreſs for the petition of the congreſs, a motion was made, and the queſtion put, "That there be laid before this Houſe, an account of the expences of the ſtaff, hoſpitals, extraordinaries, and all military contingencies whatſoever, of the army in America, from Auguſt 1773 to October 1775 inclusive?" It paſſed in the negative.

Then it was reſolved, to addreſs the King, to give directions, that copies of all acts of aſſembly paſſed in any of his Majeſty's iſlands in the Weſt Indies, by which the four and a half per cent. duties have been granted to his Majeſty, ſhould be laid before the Houſe.—Accordingly on the 29th, Mr Gaſcoyne (from the Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations) preſented to the Houſe copies of eight acts, viz. one paſſed in each of the iſlands of Barbadoes, Antigua, Nevis, and the Virgin iſlands, and two in each of the iſlands of St Chriſtopher and Montſerrat; and they were all ordered to lie upon the table.

Immediately after it was reſolved, Nov. 22. to addreſs for copies of the acts impoſing the four and a half per cent. duties, a motion was made, and the queſtion put, "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to give directions, that there be laid before this Houſe, an account of the amount of his Majeſty's quit-rents in the ſeveral provinces of North America?" It paſſed in the negative.

On the 27th, the Lord North preſented a bill to prohibit all trade and intercourſe with the colonies of New Hampſhire, &c.; and it was read a firſt time, and ordered to be read a ſecond time.

The ſame day a motion was made, and the queſtion being propoſed, "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, humbly requeſting, that his Majeſty would be graciouſly pleaſed to impart to this Houſe, who were the original authors and adviſers to his Majeſty of the following meaſures, before they were propoſed in parliament,—for taxing America, without the conſent of its aſſemblies, for the purpoſe of a revenue, —for extending the juriſdiction of the courts of admiralty and vice-admiralty,—for taking away the charter of the province of Maſſachuſet's-bay,—for reſtraining the American fiſhery,—for exempting murderers from trial in America,—for tranſporting accuſed coloniſts to England for trial,—and moſt eſpecially for eſtabliſhing Popery and deſpotiſm in Canada?"——The previous queſtion being propoſed, a motion was made, That the orders of the day be now read? and it paſſed in the negative. The previous queſtion being then put, it was reſolved in the affirmative. Then the propoſed queſtion being put, it paſſed in the negative.

The bill to prohibit all trade and intercourſe with the colonies of New Hampſhire, &c. was read a ſecond time on Friday, Dec. 1. The Houſe were in a committee upon it on the 5th and 6th of December. On the 5th, a motion was made, to divide and ſeparate the bill into two; but it paſſed in the negative.

Early in the ſeſſion petitions were preſented to the Commons by merchants, traders, &c. concerned in the Newfoundland fiſhery, and in the Weſt-India iſlands, ſetting forth the diſtreſs they ſuffered by the American non-exportation agreement, and praying leave to export proviſions from Britain to thoſe places.—Petitions for this purpoſe were preſented from Poole and Dartmouth, Nov. 2.; and from the Weſt-India merchants, Nov. 3. All theſe were referred to a committee of the whole Houſe, Nov. 17.; the ſitting of which was, Nov. 24. put off till the 14th of February.—A petition from Cheſter was preſented, Nov. 22.; as was next day, a petition from certain merchants of London, in behalf of themſelves, and others concerned in the fiſhery at Newfoundland, &c. from the ports of London, Liverpoole, Weymouth, Topſham, Limpſtone, Exmouth, and Tinmouth; and, Dec. 5. a petition from Lancaſter. Both theſe petitions were likewiſe referred to the aforementioned committee.

When the committee had gone through the bill to prohibit all trade and intercourſe with the colonies, Dec. 6. as above mentioned, the report was ordered to

to be received next day. But next morning a petition was preſented from the planters of the ſugar colonies reſiding in Britain; in which they ſay, "The petitioners fears and apprehenſions of dangers and diſtreſs ariſing out of the unhappy diſputes ſubſiſting between G. Britain and America, they firmly truſted, if conciliation did not render it unneceſſary, that theſe ſubſtantial motives, [the value of the ſugar-colonies, and their importance to G. Britain], would have made them the objects of the conſideration and attention of the Houſe; and that, in the midſt of the flattering expectation, that a former application they had made might meet a forward diſpoſition in the Houſe to relieve, the petitioners hopes are at once blaſted, and cut off, by the bringing in of a bill to prohibit all trade and intercourſe with the colonies of New Hampſhire, &c.; and that, when the American congreſs adopted their non-importation and non-exportation reſolve, the fears naturally ariſing to the petitioners from thence, were ſomewhat abated by a reliance, on the petitioners parts, of a relaxation on theirs, at leaſt with regard to the petitioners; but left, happily for the petitioners, this event might ſucceed, the preſent bill not only deprives the petitioners of the probability, but eſtabliſhes the impoſſibility likewiſe; and therefore they pray to be allowed to be heard at the bar, by their agents and counſel, againſt the bill."—The Houſe ordered the petition to lie on the table till the report of the committee ſhould be received; and that the petitioners ſhould then be heard by their counſel. The receiving of the report was put off till next day.

Immediately after this, ſix motions were ſucceſſively made, and the queſtion put upon each, viz. "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, humbly ſetting forth, that his Majeſty's ſubjects in North America, having in the moſt dutiful manner laid their grievances before his Majeſty, and having humbly beſought the gracious interpoſition of his royal authority and influence, to procure them relief from their afflicting fears and jealouſies, and having in the moſt earneſt terms declared their attachment to his perſon, family, and government, with all the devotion that principle and affection can inſpire; and having ſolemnly aſſured his Majeſty, that, connected with Great Britain by the ſtrongeſt ties that can unite ſocieties, and deploring every event that tends in any degree to weaken them, they not only moſt ardently deſire that the former harmony may be reſtored between them, but that a concord may be eſtabliſhed upon ſo firm a baſis, as to perpetuate its bleſſings, uninterrupted by any future diſſenſions, to ſucceeding generations, in both countries; and having further aſſured his Majeſty, that notwithſtanding their ſufferings during the courſe of the preſent controverſy, their breaſts retain too tender a regard for the kingdom from whence they derive their origin, to requeſt ſuch a reconciliation as might in any manner be inconſiſtent with her dignity or welfare; and that the apprehenſions, which now oppreſs their hearts with unſpeakable grief, being once removed, his Majeſty will find his faithful ſubjects in America, ready and willing at all times, as they ever have been, with their lives and fortunes, to aſſert and maintain the rights and intereſts of his Majeſty and of their mother-country; and having with all humility ſubmitted to his Majeſty's wiſe conſideration, whether it may not be expedient, that his Majeſty be pleaſed to direct ſome mode, by which the united application of his coloniſts may be improved into a happy and permanent reconciliation; his Majeſty's faithful Commons humbly beg leave to repreſent, that however well diſpoſed his Majeſty's ſubjects in North America may be, according to their moſt earneſt profeſſions, to return to their former obedience and conſtitutional dependence, yet that the horrors of war and bloodſhed raging in their country, muſt drive them to diſtraction and deſpair; and further his faithful Commons beg leave to recommend it to his Majeſty's paternal conſideration, that a return to their duty, of their own free and voluntary compliance, would enſure a more cordial and permanent reconciliation, than any reluctant ſubmiſſion, which through much bloodſhed of his Majeſty's ſubjects could be enforced by the ſword; therefore his faithful Commons moſt humbly beſeech his Majeſty, that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to give orders for putting a ſtop to the further proſecution of hoſtilities in America, thereby to prevent the further deſtruction of the lives of his Majeſty's ſubjects, and to afford the wiſhed-for opportunity to his coloniſts,

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of evincing the ſincerity of their profeſſions, by every teſtimony of devotion becoming the moſt dutiful ſubjects, and the moſt affectionate coloniſts?"

2. "That leave be given to bring in a bill, to impower the inhabitants of the province of Maſſachuſet's-bay, to elect an aſſembly and council, in the manner directed by the charter granted to the inhabitants of that province by their Majeſties K. William and Q. Mary, bearing date the 7th of October in the third year of their reign?"

3. "That leave be given to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh the right of trial by jury, in all criminal caſes, to all ſlaves in North America, and to annul all laws of any province repugnant thereto; and to require the regiſtering of the ſame, by the reſpective aſſemblies of each colony in North America?"

4. "That leave be given to bring in a bill to eſtabliſh a permanent reconciliation between Great Britain and its dependencies in North America, and to reſtore his Majeſty's ſubjects in North America, to that happy and free condition, and to that peace and proſperity, which they enjoyed in their conſtitutional dependence on Great Britain, before the preſent unhappy troubles?"

5. "That leave be given to bring in a bill for a free pardon, indemnity, and oblivion?"

6. "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, to lay the opinion of this Houſe before his Majeſty, that it may be proper, when the preſent unhappy diſputes in North America ſhall be brought to an amicable termination, that his Majeſty ſhould be graciouſly pleaſed to give orders, that letters of requiſition be written, in the accuſtomed manner, to the ſeveral provinces of his Majeſty's colonies and plantations in America, to make proviſion for the purpoſes of protecting, defending, and ſecuring the ſaid colonies and plantations?"

The queſtion on each paſſed in the negative.

The report was received Dec. 8.; the petition of the planters of the ſugar-colonies was read; counſel were heard in ſupport of the allegations of the petition; and a motion was made, and the queſtion put, That the further conſideration of the report be adjourned till the 23d of January? It paſſed in the negative. — The amendments were then read a ſecond time; and, with amendments to ſeveral of them, were agreed to by the Houſe: and a clauſe was added, and ſeveral amendments were made, by the Houſe. The bill was ordered to be ingroſſed, and to be read a third time on Monday, the 11th.

Three motions were then ſucceſſively made, viz.

1. "That James Delancey, Eſq; do attend this Houſe upon Monday morning next, in order to be examined upon the third reading of the bill?"

2. "That it is neceſſary and proper to come to a reſolution, that evidence concerning the ſtate of America, the temper of the people there, and the probable operation of an act now depending, is unneceſſary to this Houſe, this Houſe being already ſufficiently acquainted with theſe matters?"

3. "That an humble addreſs be preſented to his Majeſty, that he will be graciouſly pleaſed to order to be laid before this Houſe ſuch advices as may enable this Houſe to judge of the preſent ſtate and condition of his Majeſty's loyal and dutiful province of Georgia in North America?"

The queſtion being put upon each, paſſed in the negative.

The bill was read a third time, Dec. 11. and paſſed; and Sir Grey Cooper was ordered to carry it to the Lords, and deſire their concurrence. — At the third reading an alteration was made in the title, the concluſion being made to run thus; — "and to enable his Majeſty, or any perſon or perſons appointed and authoriſed by his Majeſty, to grant pardons, and to iſſue proclamations, in the caſes, and for the purpoſes, therein mentioned."

It was returned by the Lords on the 21ſt, with ſome amendments. Theſe were immediately taken into conſideration, and agreed to by the Houſe; and the bill received the royal aſſent on the 22d.

We have now given a connected, and well-authenticated, account, of this famous bill, while in the Houſe of Commons; and may probably afterwards give the ſubſtance of ſome of the debates, and of the proceedings upon it in the Houſe of Lords. — Meanwhile we here inſert a proteſt entered Dec. 15. on the ſecond reading of the bill, and being ordered to be committed, on a diviſion, 78 againſt 19, viz.

"*Diſ-*

" *Diſſentient*,

1. Becauſe this bill, by conſidering the colonies in America as a foreign nation, and declaring war on them in that character, has a direct tendency to effect an entire, and, we fear, permanent ſeparation, between the two capital parts of this empire. It is new to behold a nation making a ſeparation of its parts by a law, in hopes of reuniting them by a treaty. The ſovereign power has hitherto always regarded rebellion as the criminal act of individuals, and not the hoſtility of any great collective body of the community. The framers of this bill admit the principle in its full force, although by all the proviſions they every where contradict it: for whilſt the clauſes of the bill conſign *all* to puniſhment, the preamble only declares, that *many* are guilty; the legiſlature chuſing to be conſidered rather as unjuſt to particulars, than confeſs itſelf to be univerſally odious. The Engliſh on both ſides of the ocean are now taught by act of parliament to look on themſelves as ſeparate nations; nations ſuſceptible of general hoſtility, and proper parties for mutual declarations of war, and treaties of peace. We are by this act preparing their minds for that independence which we charge them with affecting, whilſt we drive them to the neceſſity of it by repeated injuries.

2. Becauſe this bill enables and encourages the navy of England to make an indiſcriminate prey of the property of Engliſh ſubjects trading to or from the colonies, (even of the ſhips which lie quiet in the American ports), without regarding whether that property belongs to friends or enemies, to the dutiful or the diſobedient. This plan of promiſcuous rapine, (unworthy of the wiſdom and decorum of government), muſt complete what yet remains to be completed, of the union in North America againſt the authority of parliament. Parliament in this bill ſeems much more inclined to diſtreſs, than able or willing to protect. In North America the refractory and ſubmiſſive may be blended together. In the Weſt Indies all are innocent; but all are doomed to a much more ſevere, and much more certain puniſhment, than falls upon the moſt guilty in North America. The whole accommodation, if not the immediate ſubſiſtence of the Weſt-India iſlands, depends on a commercial connection with the continent, from which by this bill they are expreſſly reſtrained. One of the chief, and much the moſt plauſible of the complaints made laſt year againſt the North-American colonies, was a reſolution on their part to withhold ſupply from the ſugar-plantations: but this year we have made ourſelves to adopt and ſanctify that very conduct which we had painted to the world in ſuch odious colours. It muſt appear as if this bill was purpoſely made againſt the Weſt Indies; and leſt the people of the United Colonies might return to ſentiments of fraternal affection, or from motives of ſelf-intereſt, or from impatience of ſo hard a reſtraint, ſhould diſobey or elude the orders of the congreſs, and afford relief to our innocent planters in the Weſt Indies, it ſeems as if an act of the Britiſh parliament came in aid of that authority, and provided, that no ſupply whatſoever ſhall be carried to the Weſt Indies contrary to the reſolution of the congreſs.

3. Becauſe this bill greatly exceeds in violence, the pattern of injuſtice which it ſeems to follow. In ſome reſpects the prohibition of the congreſs, materially differed from the prohibition of this bill. Theirs was not immediate. Time was given to the Weſt Indies for ſupply, both from America and other places. No confiſcation was made. We, on the other hand, have permitted the trade from America, as long as it was neceſſary to ſave ourſelves from famine, and to enable the colonies to pay their debts. This ſupply they have made plentifully, and many of thoſe debts they have diſcharged moſt honourably. In return for this, to us uſeful and honourable behaviour, miniſtry, abuſing the bounty of Providence, on the firſt reſtoration of domeſtic plenty, has fabricated a bill for ſeizing American veſſels, now trading under the faith of an act of parliament, no ſhip of theirs being ſuffered to return to its own country, either from hence, or from the Weſt Indies.

4. Becauſe the bill, not ſatisfied with making predatory war upon the trade of the colonies, think it neceſſary to ſtimulate particular avarice and rapacity to an activity in ſuch ſervice, by rendering captures of North-American veſſels and goods the property of the captors. This regulation is now, for the firſt time, (by any regular authority in this kingdom), to be adopted in a civil contention. We conſider this method of holding out the ſpoil of their fellow-citizens for the re-

ward of alacrity in civil wars, as a ſource of the moſt dangerous corruption that can be conceived; in the firſt inſtance to our navy, and in its conſequences to our army. A number of bold, enterpriſing men, trained to the profeſſion of arms, with fortunes to make, and promotion to be obtained, are naturally lovers of war. When they have once taſted of emoluments from domeſtic ſpoil, they will no longer look on the commerce of England as an object of protection, but of plunder. They will ſee the proſperous ſtate of peaceful domeſtic induſtry, not with pleaſure, but with envy. They will be taught to wiſh for thoſe lucrative civil commotions, which they will always have the means of provoking. Our ſoldiers in the land-ſervice will ſee no reaſon for their being diſtinguiſhed from the marine; and they will call for the plunder of Engliſh trading towns, when they ſee that the ſeamen have been indulged in the plunder of Engliſh trading ſhips. It never can be ſafe for a ſtate to hold out an intereſt in diſturbing it, to thoſe who have the ſword in their hand. The greateſt republic of which hiſtory gives us any knowledge, was ſubverted by this licence of domeſtic plunder. We are perfectly aſſured, that the navy of England wants no ſuch unnatural and impious encouragement towards the performance of any duty which their known public ſpirit, and yet uncorrupted honour, may make it fit for them to perform. And it is no leſs on theirs, than on the public account, a matter of the moſt ſerious affliction to us, that a ſervice always looked upon, (and hitherto moſt juſtly), not only without fear or jealouſy, but with the moſt partial affection, in every part of this empire, ſhould be unneceſſarily expoſed to the laſting odium which muſt attend thoſe who are enriched from the ſpoils of citizens, amongſt whom they may be obliged to ſpend their lives, and form their connections. Civil wars (when they muſt be made (ſhould be made in ſuch a manner, as not to render the return to peace and cordiality impracticable. If the ſpoil ordered by this act had been left in the crown, the crown might uſe it as an encouragement for a return to obedience, and as a means of future peace: it is now only a provocation, through deſpair and reſentment, to perpetual hoſtility. We cannot poſſibly diſcern how any neceſſary operation of war is ſtrengthened by this diſgrace of legiſlature. But if the arms now uſed ſhould ſucceed ſo as to enforce a temporary and reluctant obedience, we ſee but too well, that this bill will leave ſuch a ſting in the minds of the coloniſts, as to render our government there hated and ſuſpected, and therefore for ever precarious.

5. Becauſe this bill, by anticipating all legal judgement of the offences of thoſe whoſe goods are forfeited, overturns one of the moſt excellent and profoundly-conſidered parts of that fundamental law, the Declaration of Rights, which declares, "That all grants of fines and forfeitures of particular perſons before conviction, are illegal and void."—This proviſion is expreſsly made, leſt rapacious miniſters, ſcenting confiſcation, or rapacious ſoldiers, allured by the luſt of plunder, ſhould be induced to forge or provoke plots and rebellions, in order to enrich themſelves out of the public diſorders.

6. Becauſe very extenſive commercial property of Britiſh ſubjects (implicated by the nature of commercial intercourſe with that of innocent Engliſhmen reſiding here) is to be taken out of the equitable juriſdiction of the common law of England, and from that ineſtimable birthright of the ſubjects of this kingdom, a trial by jury, and carried to the court of admiralty, to be tried by a ſingle judge, on the rules of an arbitrary foreign law.

7. Becauſe the whole ſcheme of this predatory war for private lucre, is put under the arbitrary direction of certain commiſſioners, to us unknown, even by name; who have power to give ſuch continuance to the ravages authoriſed by this bill, as their arbitrary will ſhall ſuggeſt; to pardon, or except from pardon, any number or deſcription of perſons, and with ſuch exceptions as they ſhall ſee fit, without any other rule than their own private opinion, fancy, caprice, favour, or reſentment; and, without any other rule, to open or keep ſhut any colony, province, county, town, diſtrict, or place.—We are of opinion, that the power left to the ſaid commiſſioners is perfectly unjuſtifiable and unconſtitutional. It has, beſides, a tendency to create the moſt ſhameful and miſchievous monopolies. The power given to the Admiralty, and to the Weſt-India Governors, to licenſe ſhips, is of the ſame nature. If ſuch monopolies and jobbs ſhould not ariſe from ſuch powers, it is

no

no fault of this bill, which, as if it had theſe purpoſes in view, has taken eſpecial care to provide as ſtrong a temptation, as human nature, ſet above law and reſtraint, and furniſhed with every facility to corruption, can poſſibly be expoſed to.

8. Becauſe we know nothing of the buſineſs of theſe commiſſioners, further than the above arbitrary diſcretion with regard to pardons. Rumour gives out, that they are to have a power to treat with the Americans for a redreſs of their grievances. Of this, however, neither the ſpeech from the throne, nor the bill, have given the leaſt intimation: although, if the commiſſioners treat on this ſubject at all, acts and powers of parliament being the matter of complaint, the commiſſioners ought to derive ſome previous authority from parliament, in order to give weight and efficacy to their negotiations, and to preſerve ſome appearance of dignity in ourſelves. It is hardly proper that parliament ſhould appear in no other light than as the inſtrument of penal reſtrictions, attainder, penalties, and confiſcations; as the maker of menacing addreſſes, and the rejector of dutiful petitions. It is hardly decent to ſhew ourſelves fierce and inflexible here, but to be ſatisfied with permitting unknown perſons, whom miniſters ſhall chuſe in future to appoint, to diſpoſe in America of powers and acts of parliament at their pleaſure; leaving us firſt the odium of rejecting reaſonable requeſts, and afterwards the diſgrace of ratifying ſhameful conceſſions.

9. Becauſe we reject with indignation that clauſe of this bill, which, by a refinement in tyranny, and in a ſentence worſe than death, obliges the unhappy men who ſhall be made captives in this predatory war, to bear arms againſt their families, kindred, friends, and country; and, after being plundered themſelves, to become accomplices in plundering their brethren. If there exiſts a doubt, whether, to juſtify the infliction of capital puniſhment on deſertion, it ſhould be neceſſary to prove, that a ſeaman was a preſſed man, or a volunteer; the object of this clauſe is to deprive the American ſeaman of the plea of his being a preſſed ſeaman, as it declares, that he is to be conſidered, to all intents and purpoſes, as having entered voluntarily into the ſervice. By this clauſe, not only common ſeamen, but maſters of veſſels, are, without regard to age, or circumſtances, or condition, to be ignominiouſly turned before the maſt, and ſubjected to the auſtere diſcipline of the boatſwain. Perſons in that ſubordinate ſtation, not being animated with the liberal and ingenuous ſpirit which diſtinguiſhes officers in the navy, and taught to conſider theſe forced volunteers as rebels, will be but too apt to aggravate the miſeries of captivity by inſult and outrage. Theſe priſoners, among the comrades they are obliged to live and ſerve with, may very probably be often forced to behold the ſpoils of their honeſt induſtry, and the natural ſupport of their ſober families, ſquandered in riot and profligate debauchery before their faces. This we look upon as the laſt degree of wretchedneſs and indignity to which human nature can be ſubjected. This cruelty, unknown to the moſt ſavage nations, is to be practiſed by Engliſhmen on Engliſhmen. It has been ſaid in parliament, that the pay the priſoners are to receive is to be conſidered as a full compenſation for the principles they are obliged to violate. We do not envy any one that ſentiment. An attempt is alſo made to juſtify it by the ſuppoſed right of preſſing. We cannot conceive, that the burdens of ſubjection ought ever to be impoſed, where the protection belonging to it is denied; or that a man can ever be deſpoiled of his goods as a foreign enemy, and at the ſame time obliged to ſerve the ſtate as a citizen. This compulſion we have never heard to be practiſed on any priſoners in war, or in rebellion; — nor do we know any example of it except among pirates, — the outlaws and enemies of human ſociety.

10. Becauſe a bill ſo unprecedented in its nature, and ſo important in its conſequences, is brought in at a time of year, when by experience it is known, that moſt of the independent members of both Houſes are called away by their domeſtic affairs, and when few but thoſe in the immediate pay of the court, and attending on their employments, are in town. This we conceive to be done in order to impreſs the public with a deluſive idea, that thoſe meaſures are agreeable to greater numbers in both Houſes than in reality they are. The only part of this bill which we approve, is the repeal of the unjuſt and improvident acts which have produced all the evil effects

we had foreſeen, and none of the good which was pretended as the ground for making them; acts as unfit for, as incapable of execution. But to our inexpreſſible grief, and to the diſgrace of the public councils of this kingdom, miniſters, untaught by misfortunes, and unchecked by diſappointments, at the very inſtant they are obliged to demoliſh the old fabric of their oppreſſion, as uſeleſs and miſchievous, are building up another on nearly the ſame model, and, with the ſame materials, adding only ſomething more of that injuſtice and violence, which have always proved miſchievous, in proportion as they have been augmented.

ABERGAVENNY.	MANCHESTER.
RICHMOND.	FITZWILLIAM.
ROCKINGHAM.	ABINGDON.
PONSONBY.	CHEDWORTH.

SIR, *London, Dec.* 1775.

AS the Baronets of Scotland made a very extraordinary appearance at court laſt St Andrew's day, in their orange ribbons, medals, and St Andrew's croſſes, I was ſolicitous to know ſomething of the hiſtory of that order, and have collected the following particulars concerning it.

I am, &c. C. J.

THE order of Baronets in Scotland was projected by King James I. for the plantation and cultivation of the province of Nova Scotia in America, the firſt ſettlement made by the Scots beyond the Atlantic. His ſon, King Charles I. executed his royal father's plan, and inſtituted this order ſoon after his acceſſion to the throne. The firſt perſon dignified with this title was Sir Robert Gordon of Gordonſtone, a younger ſon of the Earl of Sutherland, the head of one of the moſt ancient and reſpectable families in Scotland, whoſe patent bears date the 28th of May 1625. Many other gentlemen of reſpectable families were ſoon after admitted, whoſe titles by their patents, till the Reſtoration, were uniformly deſcendible *hæreditibus maſculis quibuſcunque*. Each patent, till Nova Scotia was given up to the French, conveyed a grant of 16,000 acres of land in the province to the patentee, his heirs and aſſignees. Several very honourable clauſes are inſerted in many of theſe old patents.

It has been ſaid, that this dignity was to be obtained by purchaſe. This was not the caſe. Some of the patents contain an expreſs exemption from the payment of any fee or reward whatever, on account of procuring this new dignity, and ſome from the payment of the ordinary fees of the ſeals, and of extending the patents.

By the rules of the inſtitution, King Charles was pleaſed to grant, for himſelf and his ſucceſſors, a right to the eldeſt ſons and heirs-apparent of the Baronets, when arrived at the age of twenty-one years, to claim the honour of Knighthood without fees.

His Majeſty was ſo deſirous of adding every mark of dignity to this his favourite order, that, four years after its inſtitution, he iſſued a royal warrant, granting them the privilege of wearing a ribbon and medal, which laſt was preſented to each of them by the King himſelf, according to the words of the warrant. All the privileges of the order, particularly this of wearing the medal, were confirmed, at the King's requeſt, by the convention of eſtates in the year 1630; and in order to eſtabliſh them on the moſt ſolid foundation, they were again confirmed by an act of the parliament of Scotland in the year 1633.

This mark of diſtinction fell to the ground, with all the other honours of this country, during the uſurpation of the long parliament and of Oliver Cromwell. It continued in general, though not total diſuſe, after the Reſtoration. There have been former meetings of the order to revive the uſe of it, one in the year 1721, and another in 1734. Theſe meetings proved ineffectual, becauſe the proper ſteps towards its revival were not taken. But laſt ſummer ſuch meaſures were concerted as have effectually anſwered the end in view. [340.]

An Anecdote of the late Dr PITCAIRN.

WHen degrees were held in higher eſtimation, and therefore more coveted than at preſent, Dr Pitcairn, then at Edinburgh, in order to affront a Dutch univerſity, where he himſelf had been graduated, and degrees had been much proſtituted, ſent for a diploma for his valet; which being granted, he ſent for another for his horſe. To which laſt requeſt the Rector Magnificus replied, that with a view to oblige him, they had conſulted their records for a precedent, but that they could not find one; though, under the name of *Pitcairn*, it appeared, that the univerſity had once conferred an honorary degree on an aſs.

Written

Written in the Rt Hon. the Earl of Oxford's Library at Wimpole, 1729.

By SOAME JENYNS.

WHO uninſpir'd can tread this ſacred ground,
With all the ſons of Fame encompaſs'd round?
Where, crown'd with wreaths of ever-verdant bays,
Each ſiſter-art her willing charms diſplays.
Mellow'd by Time, here beauteous paintings glow,
There marble buſts illuſtrious faces ſhow;
And in old coins are little heroes ſeen,
With venerable ruſt of ages, green.
Around, unwounded by the teeth of Age,
By Gothic fire, or Perſecution's rage,
Perfect and fair, unnumber'd volumes ſtand,
By Providence preſerv'd for Oxford's hand,

Whilſt thus within theſe learned walls I ſtray,
At once all climes and ages I ſurvey;
On Fancy's wings I fly from ſhore to ſhore,
Recal paſt time, and live whole æras o'er;
Converſe with heroes fam'd in ancient ſong,
And bards, by whom thoſe heroes breathe ſo long;
Obſerve each progreſs Wit and Learning makes;
How haraſs'd nations trembling ſhe forſakes,
And chuſes ſtill to build her downy neſt
In happier climes, with peace and plenty bleſt.

See how, in fam'd Auguſtus' golden days,
She triumphs, crown'd with univerſal praiſe!
Approaches thrones with a majeſtic air,
The prince's miſtreſs, and the ſtateſman's care:
Mecænas ſhines in ev'ry claſſic page—
Mecænas, once the Harley of his age.
No meaner charms in Albion ſhe diſplays,
Invited thither by Saturnian days,
When Anna's prudent hand the ſceptre ſway'd,
And Oxford lent the drooping Muſes aid:
By him inſpir'd, ſee all the tuneful train
In Britain's glorious ſons revive again!
Prior, like Horace, ſtrikes the trembling ſtrings,
And in harmonious Pope again great Maro ſings.

Again ſhe waves her pinions to be gone,
And only hopes protection from his ſon.
Chas'd from the ſenate and the court ſhe flies;
Cunning and party-zeal her place ſupplies:
Yet ſtill, ſince fix'd in Wimpole's happy plain,
(Her laſt retreat), ſhe knows not to complain;
There, in great Oxford's converſe, does engage
Th' inſtructed ear, and ſhames a vicious age;
Or in his conſort's accents ſtands confeſt,
And charms with graceful eaſe each liſt'ning gueſt;
Or, with her lov'd companions, gladly ry'd,
Unſtudied charms, and beauty void of pride,
Tranſported dwells in the celeſtial place,
And ever ſmiles in Margaretta's face.

The NORTH-HIGHLAND VOLUNTEERS.
A new warlike ſong.

Tune: — *In the Garb of Old Gaul*, &c.

TO humble Rebellion, eſtabliſh the laws,
To fight in BRITANNIA's and LIBERTY's cauſe,
Our country now calls, our KING gives the word,
Once more to unſheath the invincible ſword.
And as we're ſprung from heroes of great glory and renown.
Who always were the ornament and ſupport of the crown,
Let us, like them, ſtand nobly forth in Liberty's fair cauſe,
And defy the Rebel Congreſs to alter our laws.

Our illuſtrious forefathers who ſlav'ry diſdain'd,
The flight of the proud Roman eagles reſtrain'd;
No nation but ours could their fury oppoſe,
Our fathers ne'er turned their backs to their foes.
And as we're ſprung from heroes, &c.

Let us then remember whoſe blood fills our veins
(And curſed be he who his anceſt'ry ſtains).
The deſcendents of heroes who never would yield,
Will approve themſelves always the firſt in the field.
And as we're ſprung from heroes, &c.

'Tis our Sovereign himſelf who now calls us forth,
Our chieftains the pride and the flower of the north.
And when ſuch a king and ſuch officers call,
The ſummons muſt ſurely be pleaſing to all.
And as we're ſprung from heroes, &c.

Come, then, let us quick to the ſtandard repair,
And ſhare in the toils and the glories of war:
And when under great FRASER's command we appear,
The proud rebels will ſoon change their boaſting to fear.
And as we're ſprung from heroes, &c.

To our noble gen'ral a bumper let's fill,
To MACPHERSON, MACLEOD, MACINTOSH, and LOCHIEL,
And ev'ry brave HERO who croſſes the main,
To conquer AMERICA *over again.*
And as we're ſprung from heroes, &c. D. M.
Caledonia, Jan. 1. 1776.

The ROSE HUMBLED.

I Grant thee, moſt delicious Roſe,
Profuſely gay thy beauty glows;
To thee the flow'rets of the field,
Moſt ſov'reign Roſe, their homage yield;
Such are, I grant, thy fragrant gales
As MIRA's balmy lip exhales:—
—Yet boaſt not, till, like her, thou bear
Thy bloom, and ſweetneſs, all the year!

A

A DOMESTIC SCENE.

[A gentleman being invited by another to dinner, upon his arrival at his friend's houſe, was a ſpectator of the ſcene that his humble muſe has attempted to paint in the following lines]

GENTLEMAN.

WHY weep, my Polly, what's the cauſe?
Tell me, my charmer, why thoſe tears;
What ſtroke ſuch deep affliction draws;
And put a period to my fears.
Thy father lives — thy mother's well,
Both have I ſeen within this hour —
Thy ſiſter Kitty — prithèe tell,
What poſſibly can have ſuch power.

LADY.

Oh, ſhall I never ſee her more,
Nor fold her to my breaſt again,
Nor ſee her pretty playful ſtore
Of tricks, to mitigate my pain!

GENTLEMAN.

What ſays my Polly, is Kitty dead?
I ceaſe to wonder at thy grief;
Is then my little Kitty fled?
I'm glad I came to thy relief.

LADY.

No, no, my dear, you much miſtake;
My father, brother, Kitty's well;
But dreadful loſs — ho! how I quake;
I cannot the misfortune tell.
My lovely Flora! oh, my dear!
No language can expreſs my loſs;
Nor ſhall I long ſurvive I fear,
So exquiſite, ſo keen a croſs.
Have we not ſeen her gambol o'er,
Running in ſportive mazes round
The ſpacious dining room and floor,
And catch the paper with a bound!
But now ſhe's dead — my dear is drown'd;
Farewell to happineſs and joy!
On earth no comfort can be found —
"I ſwear I'd ſooner loſt my boy." *
Whilſt thus ſhe gave a vent to tears,
Jenny came running in a hurry,
Anxious to diſſipate her fears,
And put her miſtreſs in a flurry.

JENNY.

Lord, Ma'am, the cat's alive, indeed;
Oh what a near eſcape ſhe's had!
I vow my heart did almoſt bleed,
"But now, I'm ſure, 'tis wond'rous glad!" †

LADY.

My cat alive! thrice happy day! —
Polly, tranſported, flew down ſtairs,
And ſought the place where Flora lay,
And quite forgot all other cares.
"Kiſs me, my Flora, kiſs me, love;
Here, Jenny, fetch a napkin clean,
And wipe my Flora dry, my dove,
Let not a drop of wet be ſeen."
Jenny obey'd, and ſo the dinner
Was roaſted not — let who will know it,
Which mortified that hungry ſinner,
Your humble ſervant, Sir,

THE POET.

* *Verbatim.* † *Almoſt verbatim.*

ODE for the NEW YEAR, Jan. 1. 1776.

By William Whitehead, Eſq; Poet Laureat.

ON the white rocks which guard her coaſt,
Obſervant of the parting day,
Whoſe orb was half in ocean loſt,
Reclin'd BRITANNIA lay.
Wide o'er the wat'ry waſte
A penſive look ſhe caſt;
And ſcarce could check the riſing ſigh,
And ſcarce could ſtop the tear, which trembled in her eye.

"Sheathe, ſheathe the ſword which thirſts for blood,
(She cried) deceiv'd, miſtaken men!
Nor let your parent, o'er the flood,
Send forth her voice in vain!
Alas, no tyrant ſhe,
She courts you to be free:
Submiſſive hear her ſoft command,
Nor force unwilling vengeance from a parent's hands."

Hear her ye wiſe, to duty true,
And teach the reſt to feel,
Nor let the madneſs of a few
Diſtreſs the public weal!
So ſhall the opening year aſſume,
Time's faireſt child, a happier bloom;
The white-wing'd hours ſhall lightly move,
The Sun with added luſtre ſhine;
"To err is human."—Let us prove
"Forgiveneſs is divine!"

Another ODE for the NEW YEAR 1776.

ON the green banks which guard her ſtrand,
Regardful of the riſing day,
Whoſe radiant orb illum'd her land,
AMERICA reclining lay.
Far o'er the boiſtrous main
Her aching eye-balls ſtrain;
Yet ſhe diſdain'd to heave a ſingle ſigh,
Or drop a ſingle tear from her enraged eye.

"In vain, ſhe cried, the ſword ye wield,
Ye poor, deceiv'd, miſtaken men!
Old Freedom's ſons diſdain to yield,
Tho' they have fu'd in vain!
In truth no rebels we,
Who live but to be free;
Who ne'er denied your mild command,
But ſcorn to ſink beneath your wrathful hand.

Learn to be wiſe, and learn to know,
What all the world muſt own,
Your bleſſings from our bleſſings flow,
While Commerce guards the throne.
Learn this, and let each future year
More radiant than the reſt appear:
Let Peace and Plenty ſmile again,
And let fair Freedom ſhine;
Thine was the fault, BRITANNIA; then
Be reparation thine."

M. H l-

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

[In the preſent multiplicity of matter relating to G. Britain and her Colonies, we are happy to find but few Foreign occurrences of great importance.]

TURKY.

"*Rama, in Syria, July* 26. Mahomet Beck laid ſiege to Jaffa on the 4th of May. That general called himſelf *Aboudaab*, which ſignifies Father of Gold; and under that appellation, and by a profuſe liberality, he was joined by a vaſt number of people from Cairo. The governors whom he eſtabliſhed in thoſe places which he conquered, were very arrogant, and implacable enemies to the Chriſtians. Our city and that of Nazareth were the firſt victims of their violence. Before Mahomet began the ſiege of Jaffa, he wrote to the prior of the religious obſervantins in the town of Jaffa, promiſing upon oath, that he would not ill uſe them, and exhorted them to take care of the Chriſtians. The ſiege laſted forty-nine days, and on Tueſday the 23d of May Jaffa was taken by aſſault. It was entirely plundered, and no one life was ſpared: the churches and holy images were profaned; and at four o'clock Aboudaab entered the city, and cauſed the Fathers François Peralta and François Martin Caballero to be brought before him, both of whom were religious obſervantins of St Francis. Father Peralta was wounded between the head and the ſhoulder whilſt he was at maſs. When they came before the General, he propoſed to them that they ſhould embrace Mahometiſm, if they would ſave their lives: to which they anſwered, they would die for Jeſus Chriſt. Father Peralta took his crucifix, and Father Caballero had only time to take his chaplet, when both their heads were cut off, and their bodies thrown amongſt the reſt of the corpſes. The Prior of our convent ran a great riſk of loſing his life in attempting to ſecure ſome fugitive Chriſtians; however, he ſaved 150 women and children: the reſt were allowed no quarter."

POLAND.

"*Warſaw, Nov.* 15. Some accounts from Kaliſch mention a fact which one ſhould hardly have believed poſſible at this time, though by no means unfrequent in the ages of infatuated ſuperſtition and ignorance. A gentleman in that place has actually cauſed nine old women to be burnt for witches, they being accuſed of rendering the neighbouring provinces barren by the help of magic."

ENGLAND.

Gen. Burgoyne, who ſailed from Boſton, in the Boyne man of war, on the 5th of December, arrived at London on the 27th. His Excellency waited immediately on Lord Dartmouth, ſoon after on Lord George Germaine, and next morning had a private audience of upwards of two hours with the King at the Queen's palace.

On the 27th arrived alſo at London, from Quebec, by the way of Falmouth, Col. Guy Johnſon, ſuperintendent of Indian affairs; and next day he waited on Lord George Germaine.

In the Adamant, Wilſon, which arrived, Dec. 23. at London, from Quebec, were brought forty priſoners taken from the provincials, among whom is the noted Ethan Allen [649.]. They were lodged in Pendennis caſtle.

In the Liberty, Thomſon, which arrived at Briſtol, Dec. 23. from Quebec, was brought over priſoner one of the American rifflemen. He was committed to the Bridewell at Briſtol.

"*London, Dec.* 22. A few days ago, a veſſel which had ſailed from England, having on board a large quantity of ſhoes, and other articles, ſuppoſed for the Americans, was ſeized at ſea by one of the King's armed cutters, and carried into Kinſale."

"*Goſport, Dec.* 21. The veſſels lately brought in here [631.], are given up to the merchants, as it appears they were actually bound to Falkland's iſland on the whale-fiſhing."

"*London, Dec.* 30. From an exact computation it appears, that the commodities exported from G. Britain to America, on an average of three years, have amounted to 3,370,900 l.; and that the commodities imported into G. Britain from the colonies in the ſame period amounted to 3,924,606 l. 13 s 4 d."

In purſuance of the act for prohibiting all trade and intercourſe with the colonies, a royal proclamation was iſſued, of date Dec. 22. appointing the diſtribution of prizes taken during the continuance of the rebellion now ſubſiſting in divers parts of the continent of North America, which is the ſame as in time of war. [xviii. 334.]

We continue the account of the addreſſes

dreſſes [634.].——In the gazette of Dec. 2. there are five, from the chancellor, maſters, and ſcholars, of the univerſity of Cambridge; from the mayor, recorder, aldermen, burgeſſes, and inhabitants, of the borough of Huntingdon, ſigned by 143; from the gentlemen, clergy, merchants, manufacturers, and other inhabitants, of the town of Wigan, ſigned by 243; from the recorder, aldermen, burgeſſes, and principal inhabitants, of the town of Axbridge, ſigned by 114; and from the juſtices of the peace, freeholders, and commiſſioners of the land-tax, for the ſtewartry of Kirkcudbright, in quarter-ſeſſions aſſembled, dated, Kirkcudbright, Nov. 21. and ſigned, *Will. Gordon, Preſes*; —in the gazette of Dec. 5. one, from the high ſteward, mayor, aldermen, bailiffs, and burgeſſes, of the borough of New Windſor, ſigned by 20;—in the gazette of Dec. 9. one, from the high ſheriff, gentlemen, clergy, and freeholders, of the county-palatine of Lancaſter, ſigned by 6281; — in the gazette of Dec. 12. two, from the gentlemen, clergy, tradeſmen, and manufacturers, of the town and neighbourhood of Bolton in the Moors, in the county-palatinate of Lancaſter, ſigned by 1199; and from the gentlemen, clergy, manufacturers, and principal inhabitants, of the town of Blackburn, in the county-palatine of Lancaſter, ſigned by 227;—in the gazette of Dec. 16. fifteen, from the ſheriff, gentlemen, and freeholders, of the county of Hereford, ſigned by 380; from the freeholders, juſtices of the peace, and commiſſioners of ſupply, of the county of Sutherland, dated Dornock, Nov. 22. and ſigned, *James Sutherland, P.*; from the noblemen, freeholders, juſtices of the peace, and commiſſioners of the land-tax, of the county of Banff, dated Banff, Nov. 21. and ſigned, *Fife*; from the noblemen, freeholders, juſtices of the peace, and commiſſioners of the land-tax, of the county of Elgin, dated Elgin, Nov. 28. and ſigned, *Fife*; from the provoſt, magiſtrates, council, burgeſſes, and inhabitants, of the *city* of Elgin, ſigned, *John Duff, Provoſt*; from the *Lord* Provoſt, magiſtrates, town-council, and deacons of crafts, of the burgh of Lanerk, in common-council aſſembled, dated Lanerk, Nov. 16. and ſigned, *Robert Bell, Provoſt*; from the gentlemen, juſtices of the peace, freeholders, and commiſſioners of the land-tax, of the county of Kincardine, dated Stonehaven, Nov. 29. and ſigned, *R. Barclay, Preſes*; from the miniſters and elders of the preſbytery of Irvine, dated Nov. 28. and ſigned, *Henry Graham, Moderator*; from the juſtices of the peace, commiſſioners of ſupply, and freeholders, of the county of Orkney, dated Orkney, Nov. 14. and ſigned, *Patrick Græme, Preſes*; from the provoſt, magiſtrates, and council, of the burgh of Rutherglen, dated Nov. 29. and ſigned, *James Fleming, Provoſt*; from the gentlemen, heritors, freeholders, and clergy, of the counties of Roſs and Cromarty, dated Dingwall, Nov. 23. and ſigned, *Harry Munro, Preſes*; from the magiſtrates and town-council of the burgh of Inverury, dated, Council-houſe of Inverury, Nov. 28. and ſigned, *Geo. Burnet, Provoſt*; from the magiſtrates and town-council of the antient borough of Jedburgh, dated Dec. 2. and ſigned, *Andrew Lookup*; from the magiſtrates, council, and incorporations of the royal burgh of Cupar in Fife, dated Cupar, Dec. 6. and ſigned, *John Baxter, Provoſt*; and from the magiſtrates and town-council of the royal burgh of Selkirk, dated Nov. 21. and ſigned, *Thomas Currer Chief Magiſtrate*; — in the gazette of Dec. 23. one, from the noblemen and gentlemen of the county of Roxburgh, ſigned *James Douglas, Preſes*;— and in the gazette of Dec. 30. one, from the juſtices of the peace, freeholders, and commiſſioners of the land-tax, of the county of Peebles, dated Peebles, Dec. 14. and ſigned, *Ja. Montgomery*.

In oppoſition to the addreſſes, ſeveral more petitions have been preſented to the King [634.], viz. from Newcaſtle, ſigned by 1210; from Southwark; from the town and neighbourhood of Bolton; and from the county of Lancaſter, ſigned by near 4000.

Mr Burke preſented a petition to the Commons, Nov. 16. from the inhabitants of Weſtbury, Warminſter, and Trowbridge, in favour of the Americans.

Remarks on this petition, under the ſignature *Truth*, were anſwered by *Vindex*. The latter ſays, "The petition was never alledged nor pretended to come from ALL the inhabitants of Warminſter, or either of the other towns, or even from the inhabitants *in general*. It was expreſsly declared to be the petition of the inhabitants only of thoſe towns, *and the neighbourhood thereof*, —"*whoſe names are hereunder ſubſcribed.*" Theſe laſt words

words were indeed omitted, by miſtake, in the copy of the petition publiſhed in ſome of the papers, but they were nevertheleſs inſerted in the petition itſelf. — Now, Sir, if only ONE inhabitant of Warminſter, ONE of Weſtbury, and ONE of Trowbridge had ſigned the petition, (and I preſume that three perſons have as good a right to petition the Houſe of Commons as three hundred), they would have been juſtified in calling themſelves, "*inhabitants of Weſtbury, Warminſter, and Trowbridge, whoſe names are hereunto ſubſcribed;*" but the *truth* is, notwithſtanding Mr *Truth*'s aſſertion to the contrary, that it was ſigned by a great many inhabitants both of Warminſter and Trowbridge, *or of the neighbourhood of thoſe towns.* The whole number of ſubſcribers was 138; and I venture to affirm, that they are at leaſt as reſpectable in character, as conſiderable in trade, and as opulent in fortune, as the ſubſcribers to the addreſs to the King, from the ſame quarter. I think, indeed, I pay them no compliment by the compariſon."

On the other hand, a letter has appeared in the papers, addreſſed, *To E—— B—ke, Eſq;* dated Nov. 28. and ſigned, *A Wiltſhire Freeholder*, viz.

"SIR, As you have lately, very officiouſly, taken upon you to hand into the Houſe of Commons an extraordinary kind of paper, purporting to be a petition from a ſmall number of the inhabitants of the county of Wilts, a Freeholder of that county thus publicly addreſſes you. And, firſt, he would be glad to know, why a county which ſends no leſs than thirty-four members to the Britiſh ſenate, ſhould be under the ſad neceſſity of conveying her ſentiments to that ſenate through the hands of E—— B——ke, Eſq; a gentleman, who, however reſpectable, as member for Briſtol, or as a colony-agent [17.], it is preſumed, is nevertheleſs no agent for the county of Wilts, nor can have any political connection whatever with the ſaid county.—But, Sir, it is very ſhrewdly ſuſpected, that you have not only done me and the reſt of my countrymen the unmerited favour to hand a petition we never heard of, into the Houſe, but it is preſumed further, Sir, that you were kind enough to manufacture the ſaid petition yourſelf, merely to ground an intended (ſilly) motion upon the ſame, which without it you very well knew would have been entirely groundleſs. — That this petition was actually fabricated in London, is a fact which neither you nor your emiſſaries dare deny; and that you drew it up yourſelf is generally believed from the "irregular ardor" of that "fiery ſpirit" which ſo very conſpicuouſly runs through the whole of it. — But to the point, Sir. — You are pleaſed (jocularly one would almoſt think) to ſtyle the before-mentioned paper "a petition from the towns of Weſtbury, *Warminſter*, and Trowbridge, and the neighbourhood thereof;" and you further dignify the ſubſcribers to it by the very pompous deſcription of "principal Clothiers," "independent Freeholders," and "opulent Tradeſmen." — Now, Sir, pleaſe to mark what I ſay, and digeſt or refute it if you can: Though Warminſter is particularly mentioned as one of the petitioning towns, has the honour of ſtanding ſecond in the liſt, and is well known to contain at leaſt three thouſand inhabitants, ſeventy whereof are freeholders, I do moſt confidently affirm, (and I defy you or any of your party to prove the contrary), that out of this numerous body of people inhabiting this great trading town, only three perſons could be found who would ſet their names to your very "malignant" and "uncandid" petition: — one of theſe three was a freeholder, the other two were not. — And now, Sir, be it known unto you, and to all the world, that the reſidue of the virtuous and loyal inhabitants of Warminſter, hold in the utmoſt abhorrence and deteſtation that falſe and factious paper which moſt unjuſtly caſts a vile and ſlanderous imputation on the veracity of ſome of the moſt reſpectable names in this part of the county. But whether thoſe loyal and worthy gentlemen, who, in theſe times of licentiouſneſs and ſedition, moſt properly and very dutifully addreſſed their truly good and gracious Sovereign [581.], "carried a falſehood to the throne," or whether the celebrated E—— B—— ke, Eſq; with his no leſs celebrated Warminſter petition, ſigned by only three people out of three thouſand, *(riſum teneatis amici)*, knowingly obtruded a ſcandalous falſehood on the Houſe of Commons, is left to the impartial public to determine. As a real independent Freeholder of the county of Wilts, reſiding in the neighbourhood of the petitioning town of Warminſter, I cannot, however, conclude, without loudly and earneſtly calling on Mr B——ke to produce to the public the names, the places of reſidence,

and the real occupations of the 138 "principal clothiers, independent freeholders, and opulent tradeſmen," ſubſcribers to his famous petition, which was begot by faction, ſupported by ignorance, and diſmiſſed with contempt. —— P. S. Your petition is alſo falſely ſtyled a petition of the Clergy of the places named in the petition, when it is notorious that there is not one ſingle Clergyman's name ſigned thereto. O ſhame! ſhame! where is thy bluſh?"

In the London Chronicle of Dec. 12. appeared what follows.

"As a petition has been preſented to the Houſe of Commons by Mr Burke, under the denomination of a petition *from Warminſter and other towns*, we whoſe names are hereunto ſubſcribed, the gentlemen, clergy, freeholders, manufacturers, and inhabitants of the ſaid town of Warminſter, think ourſelves obliged to inform the public, that we totally diſclaim the ſaid petition; and that it is ſo far from being the ſenſe of the town, that it was procured *unknown* to the far greater part of it, and ſigned (as far as we can on the ſtricteſt inquiry be informed) by four only of the inhabitants; and that the aſſertion therein contained, "of a moſt ſenſible decline in our manufactures," is ſo far from being true, that we have, ſince the ſubſiſtence of the preſent unhappy diſpute with our colonies, as yet felt no material diminution in our trade, our poor being ſo fully employed, that the rates of their wages are at this preſent time conſiderably advanced ſince the laſt year. We muſt therefore look on the agents and promoters of this petition, as guilty of an audacious inſult on the town, as well as a flagrant impoſition on the Houſe of Commons and the public." — Signed by 68 perſons; among whom are, *M. Maſſey, Vicar; William Slade, Clerk;* and *T. Huntington, Clerk.*

The King gave the royal aſſent to the following bills:

To theſe, Dec. 4. viz.

An act for granting an aid to his Majeſty, by a land tax, [4 s. in the pound], *to be raiſed in Great Britain, for the year 1776.*

An act for puniſhing mutiny and deſertion, and for the better payment of the army and their quarters.

An act to enable his Majeſty, for a limited time, to call out and aſſemble the militia, in caſes of rebellion within this realm of Great Britain, or any of the dominions thereunto belonging; and to ſummon the parliament, in the caſes and manner therein mentioned.

And to four private bills.

And to theſe, Dec. 22. viz.

An act to prohibit all trade and intercourſe with the colonies of New Hampſhire, Maſſachuſet's-bay, Rhode Iſland, Connecticut, New York, New Jerſey, Pennſylvania, the three lower counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia, during the continuance of the preſent rebellion within the ſaid colonies reſpectively; for repealing an act 14° Geo. III. to diſcontinue the landing and diſcharging, lading or ſhipping, of goods, wares, and merchandiſe, at the town, and within the harbour of Boſton, in the province of Maſſachuſet's-bay; and alſo two acts made in the laſt ſeſſion of parliament, for reſtraining the trade and commerce of the colonies in the ſaid acts reſpectively mentioned; and to enable his Majeſty, or any perſon or perſons appointed and authoriſed by his Majeſty, to grant pardons, and to iſſue proclamations, in the caſes, and for the purpoſes, therein mentioned. [159. 220. 670. xxxvi. 136.]

An act for the regulation of his Majeſty's marine forces while on ſhore.

An act for giving a public reward unto ſuch perſon or perſons, being his Majeſty's ſubject or ſubjects, as ſhall diſcover a Northern paſſage for veſſels by ſea between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans; and alſo unto ſuch as ſhall firſt approach by ſea within one degree of the Northern Pole.

Three bills concerning police in England, and four private bills.

None of the ten private bills paſſed this ſeſſion [631.] relate to Scotland.

Two orders of council were iſſued, Oct. 27. By one, ſaltpetre and gunpowder, the orders of Aug. 23. and Sept. 27. [523.] notwithſtanding, are permitted to be carried coaſtwiſe, in quantities not exceeding one ton of ſaltpetre and fifty barrels of gunpowder in one veſſel at one time, on bond being given for the diſcharge thereof at the places mentioned in the entries. By the other, ſaltpetre and gunpowder are permitted to be exported to Ireland, for the inland conſumption of that kingdom, in quantities not exceeding one ton of ſaltpetre and twenty-five barrels of gunpowder in one veſſel at one time, on bond being given as aforeſaid.

By another order of council, of Nov. 6. all veſſels clearing out for the coaſt of Africa, for carrying on the trade for ſlaves,

ſlaves, ivory, and gold, are permitted to take on board, as an aſſorted part of their cargoes, as much gunpowder, and as large a quantity of trading guns, piſtols, cutlaſſes, flints, and lead balls, bars, and ſhot, as the exporters ſhall think neceſſary, provided ſecurity be given that the ſame ſhall be expended in trade upon the coaſt of Africa: and all veſſels trading to the ſaid coaſt are allowed to take on board, for their defence, whatever quantity of carriage-guns, ſwivels, and ſmall arms, the maſter ſhall judge proper, not exceeding in one ſhip twelve carriage-guns and twelve ſwivels, together with one muſket or blunderbuſs, one pair of piſtols, and one cutlaſs, for every perſon of the ſhip's company, and ammunition in proportion, provided ſecurity be given to bring back the carriage-guns, ſwivels, and ſmall arms, ſo taken on board, when the voyage is completed, and to account upon oath for the expenditure of the ammunition.

By another order of council, of Nov. 22. the prohibition to export, or carry coaſtwiſe, gunpowder, ſaltpetre, or any ſort of arms or ammunition, (except in caſes ſpecified in certain orders of council), is continued for three months from and after Nov. 23. [523.]

Mr Sayre [629.] appeared at the Old Bailey, Dec. 13. and his recognizance was diſcharged.

In the beginning of November it was reported, that Sir Joſeph Yorke had got orders to treat with the States-General, concerning the Scots regiments in their ſervice; (the officers are Scots, the private moſtly Germans). Theſe troops conſiſt of three regiments, of two battalions, 1000 men, each, in all 6000. [57.]

"*London*, Nov. 3. The following petition has been ſent by Capt. Roach [339.], to the Lords of the Privy Council, named in the commiſſion of examination and of commitment.

"To the Rt Hon. the Earls of Rochford and Bathurſt, their Graces the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, and the Duke of Queenſberry, and the Rt Hon. the Lords Spencer and North,

The petition of David Roach, Captain in the ſervice of the Eaſt-India company,

Sheweth, That your petitioner having been tried abroad for the ſuſpicion of a murder, and honourably acquitted, he has been committed to priſon by miſtake; becauſe England by miſtake; becauſe the late Lord King, Lord Chancellor to George I. and II. Sir John Strange, Maſter of the Rolls, Lord Apſley, Lord Chancellor to George III. and the preſent Judge Blackſtone, agree, "that a man cannot be legally tried a ſecond time for the ſame offence."

Your petitioner therefore lays claim to his undoubted right, and to your Lordſhips juſtice; and prays, that in conſequence of the opinion of the ſaid great lawyers, he may be diſcharged from an infected priſon, where he has been detained four months at the hazard of his life by the diſtemper, contrary (as he apprehends) to law and to juſtice.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, ſhall ever pray. DAVID ROACH."

The Captain was brought by *Habeas corpus* before the court of king's-bench Nov. 25.; and, though oppoſed by Mr Wallace, counſel for the proſecution, was admitted to bail, himſelf bound in 800 l. and four ſureties in 200 l. each.

He was tried, at the Old Bailey, Dec. 11. by ſpecial commiſſion, on a charge of having murdered Capt. John Ferguſon, at the Cape of Good Hope, on the 4th of September 1773.—An account of the trial appeared in the papers of next day, viz.

"Andrew Cairncroſs, ſurgeon of the Vanſittart Eaſt-Indiaman, depoſed, That the ſhip left England in May 1773; that the priſoner and the deceaſed both had commiſſions in the land-ſervice of the Eaſt-India company, and were paſſengers on board the Vanſittart; that they had ſeveral diſagreements while ſhe was on her voyage, and that the priſoner rendered himſelf ſo obnoxious to the paſſengers on board, that he was voted out of the cabin-meſs; that the veſſel touched at the iſland of Madeira, and that he thought all differences had been amicably adjuſted at that time; that on the 4th of September the ſhip arrived at the Cape of Good Hope; that the deceaſed and he went on ſhore, with ſeveral of the paſſengers, at ten in the forenoon; that Capt. Roach and his wife went aſhore in another boat in the afternoon; that the firſt party lodged at Mr Chirand's; that they were ſitting after tea in a room up ſtairs, with candles on the table, between ſix and ſeven in the evening; that a meſſage was then brought to the deceaſed, informing him, that Capt. Matthews wanted to ſpeak with him; that he in

conſequence went down; and in about five minutes after, word was brought that ſome perſons were fighting in the ſtreet; that he ran down, and met Capt. Roach within a few yards of the houſe; that he was ſheathing his ſword, and appeared to be making off as faſt as he could; that at about ten yards diſtance, he found Capt. Fergufon lying on the ground, with his ſword by him, the end of it broke off; that he had a low pulſe, and all the ſymptoms of a man in the agonies of death; that he was brought into Mr Chirand's houſe, and expired immediately; that he afterwards examined the body, and found the deceaſed had received ſeveral wounds, apparently from a ſmall ſword, and all on the left * ſide, except one over his eye, which ſlanted to the crown of his head; that the wound which cauſed his death was over the pap of his left breaſt; that its orifice was an inch wide, and that it was five inches deep; that on probing it, he found that the ſword had glanced againſt the third rib, which gave it an oblique direction; that it had paſſed the intercoſtal muſcles, the mediaſtinum, the pleura, the pericardium, and wounded the aorta, and entered the left ventricle of the heart. He further ſaid, that when the affair happened, it was ſo dark that the cleareſt-ſighted perſon could not ſee the length of a ſword; and that the deceaſed had a viſible defect in one eye, and could not ſee well with the other: That he heard a reward was offered for the apprehending of Roach, by the Fiſcal and Governor of the place; but that he did not hear he was ever taken in conſequence of that offer.

John Moody, ſurgeon's mate of the Vanſittart, depoſed, That he knew the priſoner and the deceaſed had ill words before they touched at the Madeiras; that he ſaw him make wry faces at the deceaſed, after they left the Madeiras; that he heard him frequently declare, *he wiſhed to ſhorten the race of the Fergufons:* That on the 2d of September, the night preceding the ſuppoſed murder, the priſoner ſent for him to come to his cabin to ſee Mrs Roach, who was indiſpoſed; that he there entered into a converſation with him reſpecting his difference with Fergufon; that, in it, he ſaid he would chaſtiſe him when he came on ſhore; that he aſked if he (the witneſs) thought Fergufon would accept a challenge if he ſent him one; that he expreſſed an opinion that the deceaſed was the cauſe of his quarrel with the other paſſengers, and declared he did not think Fergufon a coward, but believed, if he challenged him, he'd meet him; adding, that if he did not, *by God he'd run him through the body*; that he ſaid his own ſword was not good enough, and borrowed one of Mr Edgworth, an officer, who was likewiſe a paſſenger; and that he (the witneſs) ſaw Mr Edgworth lend the priſoner his ſword in the morning. Upon his croſs examination, he ſaid, he neither told what Roach had ſaid to him, to Fergufon, or Cairncroſs; (who were his countrymen and friends), nor to Capt. Young, nor to Col. Keys, (the ſuperior land-officer on board), nor to any other perſon, previous to the deceaſed and the priſoner's going on ſhore; and that he was himſelf on ſhore three days; that although the fact was the ſubject of general converſation, he never mentioned it then, either to the Governor, Fiſcal, or other magiſtrate; that he knew of the affair, and that a reward was publicly offered for the apprehending of Roach; and the only reaſon he aſſigned for ſuch an aſtoniſhing and reprehenſible ſilence on his part, was, that it was no concern of his, and he did not chuſe to meddle with it.

Robert Young, Captain of the Vanſittart, depoſed, and corroborated what Cairncroſs had ſworn, as to her leaving England, and touching at the Madeiras, and as to the difference between the priſoner and the deceaſed. He further ſaid, That the priſoner, during the paſſage, deſired him to carry a letter from him to the deceaſed, aſking his pardon for what had paſſed, and begging him to think no more of it; that the deceaſed refuſed to receive it, declaring that Roach had ſo often aſked pardon, and ſo often offended, that he'd have nothing further to ſay to him; but when he came to Bombay, would preſent a memorial of his behaviuur to the Preſident and Council; that the day before he (the witneſs) and the paſſengers landed at the Cape, the priſoner complained to him, "that Fergufon would not ſpeak to him," and declared, "that he *ſhould* ſpeak to him "when he came on ſhore;" that he landed in the forenoon of Saturday 4. and left orders that the priſon-

* The court here aſked if the deceaſed was left handed, or was ever uſed to fence with his left-hand.

have his boat to take him and his wife on ſhore, when he wanted to go; that in the afternoon he had occaſion to go aboard his ſhip to give ſome orders, and he met the priſoner and Mrs Roach juſt landing; that on his return at night, he was informed, that the priſoner had aſſaſſinated Capt. Fergusſon; that on the night of the interment of the deceaſed, (about five days after the fact), he waited on the Fiſcal, and expreſſed his wonder that the priſoner was not apprehended, declaring, that if proper ſearch was made, he thought it impoſſible for him to lie concealed in ſo ſmall a town; that the Fiſcal agreed with him that the priſoner ought to be brought to juſtice, and wiſhed he was found.

Baron Burland then called upon the priſoner to make his defence. Mr Roach ſaid, That he had ſeveral inſtruments to prove his having been tried and acquitted at the Cape, by the moſt arbitrary government in the world; but that he did not mean to make theſe inſtruments the ground of his defence; that what he had done, he did in virtue of his commiſſion, which made it neceſſary for him to ſupport his honour: That he had been moſt barbarouſly aſſaulted, had one of his arms diſlocated, and had received a violent contuſion on his ſkull; and that he ſtood acquitted before God of any guilt, as he ſhould prove by his witneſſes.

The firſt witneſs ſworn in ſupport of this defence was James Goodwin, who declared, he went out in one ſhip, and afterwards went on board another, (the Sandwich Eaſt-Indiaman); that he left that ſhip in the Bay of Falls, within eighteen miles of the Cape of Good Hope, on the 2d of September; that on the 4th of the ſame month, as he was walking through the Company's garden, he ſaw a tall man, dreſſed in a light blue coat, purſuing and aſſaulting another man, who was ſhorter, and dreſſed in red, and knocked him down; that he gave him more than one blow ere he fell; that the little man, when he was on the ground, cried out, "Don't ſtrike me when I'm down, but let me get up and have ſatisfaction;" that when he got up, the tall man drew his ſword, and took his cane in his left hand, and that he fought with both cane and ſword till he fell. Upon his croſs examination this witneſs ſaid, it was rather duſk than dark when he ſaw what he had ſworn to, and that he ſtood at ſeven yards diſtance while it happened; that the priſoner neither turned at the firſt or ſecond blow, but after he fell, ſpoke the words as above; that he had not mentioned what he ſaw to any perſon; that he heard the affair ſpoken of in the punch-houſe at the Cape; and that the reaſon of his now giving his evidence was, that about three weeks ſince, he heard a perſon read in the public papers an account of Capt. Roach's being in Newgate for the affair which he had ſeen; that he therefore went to the priſon, and told him what he knew. He was very cloſely interrogated by Serjeant Davy, (who came into court ſoon after the trial began).

Guſtavus M'Guſty depoſed, That he kept the books of the Sandwich Eaſt-Indiaman; that it was true, Goodwin, the preceding witneſs, had left the ſhip in the Bay of Falls on the 2d of September, and that he interceded with the Captain to forgive him for ſo doing; that he gained a promiſe of pardon for him, and in conſequence he returned on board, either on the 5th or 6th of the ſame month.

Capt. Roach's counſel declined calling any more witneſſes, as they confeſſed they had no more who could ſpeak to the principal fact.—Baron Burland then fully explained to the jury the nature of the commiſſion under the authority of which the priſoner was tried, they were ſworn, and the court ſat; he afterwards proceeded to ſum up the evidence, which he repeated with great accuracy; and then obſerved, that the ſole object of the jury's conſideration was, whether the priſoner had, with malice aforethought, and from a preconceived grudge, gone on ſhore to murder the deceaſed; and this, he ſaid, they were to collect from the evidence. If they credited all that had been ſworn on the part of the proſecution, Moody's teſtimony, in particular, led to the idea of previous malice; but then there was ſomething ſo extraordinary, nay, ſo incredible, in the circumſtance of his being acquainted with the priſoner's reſolution to *chaſtiſe* Fergusſon, as he called it, and his not informing any one perſon in the ſhip of it, or on ſhore, where he was three days after the fact was notorious, that he left it to the jury to put that value on his teſtimony which they might think it merited. Captain Young's evidence likewiſe, if conſtrued to a particular ſenſe, would prove the malice; for he had ſworn, that

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the piſoner told him, that, when he came on ſhore, Capt. Ferguſon *ſhould* ſpeak to him: but (the Baron obſerved) it would be hard to take only the worſt interpretation of theſe words; by ſpeaking, the priſoner might mean, to come to an eclairciſſement, and hear what he had to ſay. That Capt. Roach fought the deceaſed, and that the deceaſed died in conſequence of the wounds he received from thr priſoner, was a fact fully eſtabliſhed and agreed to; the only doubt was, whether the priſoner had murdered the deceaſed: That the teſtimony of Goodwin, if believed, clearly acquitted the priſoner of any ſuch crime; that Goodwin ſwore poſitively; but that there was an evident contradiction in his evidence and that of Cairncroſs, as to the viſibility of the tranſaction; the latter ſwearing it was ſo dark that the cleareſt-ſighted man could not ſee the length of a ſword, and the former depoſing that he ſtood at ſeven yards diſtance, and not only ſaw it fully, but alſo that it was light enough for him to diſtinguiſh the colour of the cloaths of the deceaſed and the priſoner. Theſe obſervations, and ſeveral others which naturally aroſe from the evidence, fell from the Baron; who adviſed the jury to conſider the whole caſe maturely; and (after informing them that the preſent ſpecial commiſſion, like an admiralty-commiſſion, made it neceſſary that their verdict ſhould either wholly acquit or condemn; for that the verdict of *manſlaughter* could not be received, as the commiſſion was limited for the trial of David Roach, who ſtood charged with *murder*), he told them, that if they thought the malice not evident, it was always right to conſtrue the caſe *mitiori ſenſu*, and to let the doubt turn in favour of the accuſed.— Juſt as the jury were going out of court, the Baron called them back, to obſerve to them, that he had omitted one material obſervation, which was, that Goodwin had ſworn the deceaſed had violently aſſaulted the priſoner ere he drew his ſword: if this was true, it clearly removed the idea of malice prepenſe.

The jury ſtaid out about three quarters of an hour, and then returned with the verdict of Not guilty.

The priſoner immediately addreſſed himſelf to the jury, and expreſſed his gratitude; and the auditors clapped and ſhouted.

The counſel for the proſecution were, Mr Serjeant Davy, Mr Cox, Mr Macdonald, and a young barriſter: for the priſoner, Mr Lucas, Mr Davenport, and Mr Howarth.

On Friday, Dec. 8. came on, at the Old Bailey, the trial of Margaret Caroline Rudd [476.], for feloniouſly forging, on the 24th of December laſt, a certain paper-writing, purporting to be a bond ſigned by William Adair, &c. with intent to defraud the ſaid William Adair; and for feloniouſly uttering and publiſhing the ſame.

Having already been brought to the bar, in September ſeſſions, to plead to ſaid indictment; and her counſel inſiſting, that ſhe ought not be tried for the ſame, ſhe having confeſſed herſelf an accomplice, and admitted by the juſtices an evidence for the crown [161.]; and the judges then on the bench differing in opinion on the point of law, reference was had to the opinion of all the judges, that the matter might be finally ſettled, how far, under what circumſtances, and in what manner, an accomplice, received as a witneſs, ought to be entitled to favour and mercy.

On this point of law Mr Juſtice Aſton ſaid, he was to acquaint her, that eleven of the judges met, (the Lord Chief Juſtice of the Common Pleas being abſent by indiſpoſition), and were unanimous in their opinion, that in caſes not within any ſtatutes, an accomplice who fully diſcloſes the joint guilt of himſelf and his companions, and is admitted by juſtices of the peace as a witneſs, and who appears to have acted a fair and ingenuous part in the diſcloſure of all the circumſtances of the caſes in which he has been concerned, ought not to be proſecuted for the offences ſo by him confeſſed; but cannot by law plead this in bar of any indictment, but merely as an equitable claim to mercy from the crown: and nine of the judges were of opinion that all the circumſtances relative to this claim ought to be laid before the court, to enable the judges to exerciſe their diſcretion, whether the trial ſhould proceed or not. With reſpect to the particular caſe before them, the ſame nine judges were of opinion, that if the matter ſtood ſingly upon the two informations of the priſoner, compared with the indictments againſt her, ſhe ought to have been tried upon all or any of them: for, from her informations, ſhe is no accomplice: ſhe exhibits a charge againſt

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Robert and Daniel Perreau, the firſt ſoliciting her to imitate the hand-writing of William Adair, the other forcing her to do the forgery, under the threat of death. Her two informations are contradictory: if ſhe has ſuppreſſed the truth, ſhe has no equitable claim to favour; and if ſhe has told the truth, and the whole truth, ſhe cannot be convicted. As to the indictments preferred againſt her by Sir Thomas Frankland, as her informations before the juſtices have no relation to his charges, ſhe can claim no ſort of advantage from theſe informations. The caſe being thus clearly ſtated, the court proceeded to trial.

The chief witneſſes againſt the priſoner were Mrs Perreau, wife of Robert Perreau, and John Moody, who lived as ſervant to Daniel Perreau. The firſt endeavoured to prove the publiſhing the bond; the latter, the forging it. Sir Thomas Frankland proved only the lending the money upon it. The counſel for the priſoner objected to the competency of Mrs Perreau as a witneſs, ſhe being intereſted in the conviction on her huſband's account; but that was overruled. The material part of her evidence was, That on the 24th of December laſt, ſhe ſaw Mrs Rudd deliver a bond to her huſband Mr Perreau: that ſhe knew it was a bond, becauſe Mr Perreau laid it down upon the table while he was bruſhing his coat, and ſhe looked at it; that it was for 5300 l. made payable to Robert Perreau, and ſigned *William Adair*; and the witneſſes were Arthur Jones and Thomas Start, or Hart. Being aſked, When ſhe ſaw the bond again? ſhe ſaid, The day after her huſband's conviction (the 8th of March) it was brought to her, with other bonds, to ſee if ſhe knew it to be the ſame bond delivered to her huſband the 24th of December. She ſelected it from the reſt, ſhe ſaid, and made her mark upon it: That on Mrs Rudd's delivering it to Mr Perreau, Mrs Rudd ſaid, Mr Adair would be very much obliged to Mr Perreau to try to raiſe upon that bond the ſum of 4000 l. of Sir Thomas Frankland.

Being croſs-examined, ſhe ſaid, ſhe did not know that ſhe had ever ſeen a bond before (the 24th of December) in her life; that ſhe had no ſuſpicion, when ſhe firſt looked at the bond, that any thing was wrong. She was then aſked, How ſhe came to recollect ſo particularly every circumſtance about the bond in queſtion, ſo as to know the name of the obligors, to whom payable, the ſum for which the bond was given, the name of the witneſſes, and that ſo very exactly as, at the diſtance of three months, to be able to ſelect the bond from other bonds by a ſimilitude of circumſtances? Her anſwer was, I have the happineſs to have a good memory. She was aſked, If, in ſelecting the bond in queſtion, ſhe had not looked over the other bonds that were preſented to her at the ſame time? She acknowledged ſhe had. Then, ſaid the counſel, Does your excellent memory enable you to remember one date or ſum in any one paper produced to you? Her anſwer was, *I do not remember*.

John Moody's evidence amounted to this: That he had lived with the priſoner as a ſervant; that he had particularly remarked, that his miſtreſs wrote two hands, a common and a feigned hand; that ſhe wrote her feigned hand when ſhe wrote letters to his maſter as coming from Mr William Adair, and her common hand in noting the ordinary buſineſs of the houſe; that he really believed he ſhould know her hand-writing: and being ſhewn the name *William Adair* ſigned to the bond, he ſaid, the name *William Adair* appears to be the ſame hand the letters were wrote in which I gave to Daniel Perreau as coming from Mr William Adair, which I ſaw Mrs Rudd write the directions of. — Do you believe the name *William Adair* to the bond is the priſoner's hand-writing? — "I believe it is her hand-writing." Being aſked, on his croſs examination, if he had ever ſeen his miſtreſs write the name *William Adair*? He ſaid he never had. On the credibility of theſe two witneſſes the truth of the fact ſeemed to depend.

Sir Thomas Frankland's evidence tended only to prove, that Robert Perreau had borrowed 4000 l. of him upon the bond in queſtion; and that he had given Robert Perreau a draught for 3890 l. deducting the diſcount of 5000 l. formerly lent, with the diſcount of the money then borrowed, and 15 l. 10 s. for a lottery ticket; that he had ſince received, among other things, jewels to the value of 2800 l. with womens wearing-apparel, &c. which might, for what he knew, be the priſoner's, but were ſold to him, by the two Perreaus, by a bill of ſale.

The other witneſſes produced were equally immaterial with that of Sir Thomas with reſpect to the bringing home

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the forgery to the priſoner: A Chriſtian Hart, indeed, proves a paper to have been given her by the priſoner, the purport of which was, to ſhew a combination againſt her life to have been concerted at the witneſs's houſe by Sir Thomas Frankland, and the friends of the Perreaus; which, though infamous, if Hart's evidence is credited, yet could not at all affect the preſent proſecution.

When put upon her defence, her addreſs to the jury was ſhort and pertinent; and concluded in theſe words: "Gentlemen, You are honeſt men, and I am ſafe in your hands." The jury brought in their verdict very properly: "According to the evidence before us, NOT GUILTY."

On Monday, Dec. 11. came on to be heard, in the court of king's-bench at Guildhall, an action, brought by the widow of a tailor at Paris, againſt John Wilkes, Eſq; for the ſum of 186 l. for cloaths had of her late huſband in the year 1766. In opening the caſe the counſel obſerved, that Mr Wilkes had agreed to pay the bill with intereſt; that he ſhould produce letters, wrote by Mr Wilkes, which confirmed the ſame. He recapitulated the evaſions made uſe of in them; and one in particular, when he ſaid, "that the contrary winds had prevented him from receiving remmittances from England:" and the counſel added, that contrary winds, or ſome other cauſe, had prevented the plaintiff from receiving ſatisfaction for her debt. Lord Mansfield, who tried the cauſe, ſmiled at theſe obſervations. His Lordſhip read the letters in Engliſh (they being wrote in French): one of them was to a Monſieur Quillau woollen-draper at Paris; and in it the writer tells Mr Quillau, that, being in a foreign country, he could not immediately command reſources as if in England; begs him to ſettle the matter for him, and he ſhould have no reaſon to repent having placed a confidence in an Engliſhman. The hand-writing of Mr Wilkes was proved by one of the Lord Mayor's clerks. The counſel for the defendant produced no witneſs, and ſaid, indeed, very little, (nothing to the purpoſe). The jury, therefore, found a verdict for the plaintiff of 265 l. 15 s. 8 d. (being the amount of the debt with intereſt), and coſts."

"*London, Dec.* 14. Yeſterday Sarah Reynolds was executed at Tyburn, purſuant to her ſentence on Monday, for the murder of her baſtard child. The unhappy convict wept bitterly, and was very intent on her devotions. — The fate of this unhappy woman naturally gives riſe to the following reflections. What a falſe pride is that which can induce a woman to murder her own infant, rather than ſubmit to a temporary diſgrace? What puniſhment is due to a man, who wilfully debauches a poor girl, and then refuſes to make her the only reparation in his power by marriage? And is not that cuſtom a very tyrannical one, which totally deſtroys a woman's reputation for an offence which fixes no blame or imputation on the character of a man? Our correſpondent adds, that a law to compel the father of a baſtard child to marry the mother, might probably prevent many murders, and ſave the life of the mothers, by the very means that preſerves the children." [xxviii. 585.]

"*London, Dec.* 20. By a letter from Holland we are informed, that the crew of a veſſel from Bourdeaux, which had been loſt during the late ſtorm on the Dutch coaſt, made their eſcape in the ſhip's boat, and got ſafe on ſhore, by putting in practice the method preſcribed by Dr Franklin, of caſting oil around them into the ſea. By the ſame advices we are aſſured, that a Dutch fiſhing-boat on the coaſt of Nordwyk, laden with ſixty-ſix thouſand herrings, eſcaped by having recourſe to the like method.

"*London, Dec.* 26. Laſt week a woman at Crowland in Lincolnſhire was delivered of two children at a birth; one with ſix teeth, and ſix fingers and a thumb on each hand, and ſix toes on each foot; the other with five fingers and a thumb on each hand, and ſix toes on each foot."

SCOTLAND.

[Many poſtponed articles are now inſerted.]

The bill for regulating the qualifications of freeholders was approved of by ſome counties, and diſapproved of by others. [569.]

About the middle of October, a number of gentlemen who diſapproved of this bill, adverti ſed a meeting to be held at Fortune's tavern, Edinburgh, on the 15th of November, to join in oppoſing it, giving as reaſons,

"1. As the purport of the bill is, to give only one vote to each man of eſtate, how many ſoever qualifications he may have upon that eſtate, the certain conſequence of it muſt be, that finding the fier of his qualifications of no uſe to him, he

he will ſell the ſuperiorities of them to whoever will buy them; and thus three fourths of the electors of Scotland will be voters upon mere ſuperiority, without any landed property.

2. As in every county the men of ſmall eſtates are more numerous than the men of large eſtates, the elections will fall into the hands of the men o ſmall property.

From theſe two cauſes it will, nay muſt happen, that all the county-members for Scotland will be choſen by two or three hundred men on a hundred pounds a-year land-property, and a thouſand or two men voters upon ſuperiority, without a ſhilling of landed property at all; while the men of ancient family and great eſtates will only have the ſatisfaction of ſeeing two ſets of beggars ſtruggle with each other, who ſhall name the repreſentatives who are to lay taxes upon the nation.

3. We did expect, that this bill would be approved of at county-meetings, becauſe the men of ſmall eſtates being always more numerous than the men of large eſtates, muſt outvote them in approving or diſapproving the bill; but for a ſimilar reaſon, we believe parliament will receive a bill with diſdain, which overturns the nature of things, takes power from men of property, who ought to have power, and gives it to men without property, who ought not to have it.

4. The bill has a retroſpect, and will forfeit many of their qualifications who purchaſed them *bona fide*, without giving them any recompence for them; a thing without example in the hiſtory or law of Britain.

5. The bill is the moſt mortal blow that ever was aimed at the conſequence of the nobility of this country, without their having done any thing to merit it. If it takes place, they will be in the ſituation which James VI. deſcribed, when he ſaid, "That Tom and Dick, and Will and Ned, would be upon a level with the beſt of them." For which reaſon we invite ſuch of the nobility as feel the indignity to their order in the manner that they ought, to honour us with their company by themſelves or commiſſioners.

6. We find it a very eaſy matter to find remedies for the evils complained of in the bill, without ſubmitting to the many evils contained in it. One was ſuggeſted at the Mid-Lothian meeting, viz. That each freeholder ſhould have a number of votes proportioned to the numbers of his qualifications [567.] And other remedies might be ſuggeſted."

"FREEHOLDERS BILL. *Edinburgh, Nov.* 15. 1775. Sederunt, Lord Elibank, Mr Roughead of Inverleith, Mr Charteris of Amisfield, General Lockhart of Lee, Mr Hay of Drummelzier, Capt. Dalrymple of Fordel, and Sir John Dalrymple, Bt.—Sir John Dalrymple choſen Preſes. —— The meeting is unanimouſly of opinion, That the bill for altering the qualifications of freeholders in Scotland, now depending in parliament, is, in many reſpects, a moſt pernicious one; and that it ought to be oppoſed at the bar of the Houſe, by petition; and, for that purpoſe, invites other noblemen and gentlemen of their country, to ſignify their acceſſion to that oppoſition, by letters, directed to any one of their number, in order that a petition to parliament againſt the bill, may be ſpeedily drawn up."

The ſouthern circuit [523.] was opened, at Air, Sept. 27. by the Lord Juſtice-Clerk. Peter Lawrie, an Iriſhman, found guilty of horſe-ſtealing, was baniſhed for life, his ſervice adjudged for ſeven years. Joſeph Pirie and George Leek, both young boys, found guilty of picking a pocket-book, containing bank-notes and bills, in the market of Beith, were ſentenced to be whipped through the ſtreets of Air on the 20th of October, then Leek to be ſet at liberty, and Pirie to be baniſhed, and his ſervice adjudged for ſeven years. James Napier, found guilty of ſtealing a parcel of yarn, was ſentenced to be whipped through Air on the 20th of October. James Dunlop was accuſed of having rode over and murdered Mary Currie. The libel was reſtricted to culpable homicide. Of which the jury found the pannel guilty, and he was ſentenced to ſuffer ſix months impriſonment, and fined in 10l. Sterling by way of aſſythment to the neareſt of kin of the deceaſed. Thomas Barr, was accuſed of having rode over and murdered John Brown. This libel was likewiſe reſtricted to culpable homicide. The jury unanimouſly found the pannel not guilty, he having uſed his utmoſt endeavour to prevent the unfortunate accident, and ſhewed the moſt becoming compunction for it. He was acquitted.

At Dumfries, Lord Coalſton judge, James Tory, and his wife, were tried for

petty theft, and receipt of theft. The jury found the theft not proven againſt Tory; but, by a plurality of voices, found the wife guilty of receipt of theft. She was ſentenced to be impriſoned till Oct. 18. then to be ſet on the pillory for half an hour, and to be afterward ſet at liberty.

At Jedburgh, Lord Coalſton judge, John Scott tinker, Agnes Macintoſh his wife, William Scott his brother, and Suſan Fowler William's wife, were indicted for having ſtolen ſhirts, table-cloths, ſheets, &c. The two men had eſcaped from priſon, and were fugitated for non-appearance. The two wives were tried. After ſome ingenious pleadings on the relevancy, particularly on the queſtion, Whether a woman's receiving goods which her huſband had ſtolen, could ſubject her to the pains of *receipt of theft*, in the ſame manner as if ſhe had received them from a ſtranger; ſeeing it was not only her duty to obey her huſband, but alſo ſhe would be induced, by conjugal affection, at leaſt not to inform againſt him, ſo as to be inſtrumental in taking away his life? the judge found the libel relevant to infer an arbitrary puniſhment. The jury found the priſoners not guilty of the theft; but found them guilty of receiving the goods knowing them to be ſtolen. They were ſentenced to be impriſoned till the Tueſday ſe'ennight after, and then to be publicly whipped, and diſmiſſed.

Emigrations continue [340.]. — Towards the end of Auguſt two veſſels lay off Ghiga, one of the weſtern iſles, ready to take in emigrants for Cape Fare, from Kintyre, Knapdale, and the circumjacent iſlands, ſo ſoon as beds could be fitted up, 150 for each veſſel; and they ſailed before the order of the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms arrived [523.]. — We give extracts from two other letters, viz.

"*Fort-William, Sept.* 4. Yeſterday ſailed the Jupiter, from Dunſtaffnage bay, with about 200 emigrants on board, for North Carolina, from Appin in Argyleſhire. Though formerly among the firſt to take up arms againſt the reigning family, they now declare their readineſs to ſupport government, in caſe they find it neceſſary, on their arrival in America. They alledge, in juſtification of their emigrating in theſe troubleſome times, that it is better to confront an enemy in the wildeſt deſert in that country, than live to be beggars in their native land; that the oppreſſions of their landlords are ſuch, that none but the timid will bear with them, while an aſylum can be found in theſe wild, but happy regions of America, for thoſe that have a ſpirit to ſeek for it. Many of them are among the beſt in circumſtances in this neighbourhood: one of them went away with his ſeven ſons. This day will ſail the ſhip Glaſgow, with emigrants from the port of Fort-William, bound for New York. They aſſign much the ſame reaſon with the former for their conduct. In ſhort, the emigrations of the ſheep-graſiers from the ſouth, and the uncharitable exactions of the proprietors of lands, will ſoon baniſh the old inhabitants, and depopulate this poor, but once happy country, which, as Ulyſſes ſays of Ithaca, is,

A barren clime, but breeds a generous race."

"*Orkney, Sept.* 27. The ſhip Marlborough of Whitby, after lying four weeks at Stromneſs, indenting emigrants for Georgia, ſailed, Wedneſday morning laſt, for that colony. She carried out about fourteen young and old of both ſexes, who embarked at Whitby, twenty-four from Caithneſs, and twenty-ſeven from Orkney. — Copies of a printed paper have been circulated all over this country, in order to induce the people to leave the place of their nativity. The paper gives a very flattering deſcription of Georgia; which, to the ſad experience of many who have left this part, has been found exceedingly unhealthy, and has proved the burial-place of ſome hundreds of the unhappy people who have been induced to leave this and the neighbouring counties."

"*Edinburgh, Sept.* 27. A ſhip ſailed lately from Greenock for America with ſhoes, ſtockings, plaids, belts, &c. for a regiment of emigrants now raiſing by government in America, to be called, *The Royal Highland Emigrants*. Coats, arms, and ammunition are to be ſent from London. — Mr Murdoch Maclean of this city, is appointed a captain in them, and is gone out in the above ſhip." [553, 4.].

"*Edinburgh, Nov.* 8. Letters from Sky mention the arrival of the Katy of Greenock, Capt. Thomſon, from Bergen, on the 27th October, with Lord Glencairn, Sir James Murray, Mr Rutherford, and Mr Donn, on board, all well." [525.]

About

About the middle of October an additional lieutenant was added to each company of the 42d regiment, the Royal Highlanders.

"*Edinburgh, Nov.* 6. It is now determined, that Gen. Fraſer ſhall have the command of a regiment of highlanders forthwith to be raiſed, to conſiſt of two battalions, of 1000 men each; and that Sir William Erſkine is to be Lieutenant-Colonel, and Capt. Forbes of New Major, of the firſt battalion; and Lt-Col. Archibald Campbell Lieutenant-Colonel, and Capt. Macdonald Major, of the ſecond battalion."—On Tueſday, Nov. 21. the Commons agreed to a reſolution of the ſupply-committee, "That 47,000 l. be granted to defray the expence of a highland regiment to be raiſed in Scotland, conſiſting of two battalions, for the ſervice of the year 1776." —— The recruiting of Gen. Fraſer's regiment goes on ſucceſsfully at Edinburgh, and other places. Æneas Macintoſh, Eſq; of Macintoſh, and Mr Cameron of Lochiel, who are appointed captains in that regiment, meet with great ſucceſs among their reſpective clans. Lochiel is ſaid to have got ſeventy-five recruits in two days.

"*Edinburgh, Oct.* 21. A correſpondent informs us, that Mr Alderman Sawbridge, Lord-Mayor-elect of London, has wrote a letter to the chief magiſtrate of a certain city, in which he gives the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of the ſupport and concurrence of the city of London, in any meaſure that ſhall be required by its town-council, provided no addreſs be made by them upon American affairs. This epiſtle and the addreſs have occaſioned warm diſputes in the council; inſomuch that even reſignations have been talked of if certain meaſures were not adopted." —— An addreſs from the city of Edinburgh was ſigned Oct. 11. and appeared in the gazette of Oct. 21. [581.]

"*Glaſgow, Oct.* 6. The magiſtrates and town-council of this city having intended to ſend up an addreſs to the King, the merchants having aſſembled, ſome of them were deputed to wait upon the Provoſt; which they did, and remonſtrated in very ſtrong terms againſt ſuch a proceeding. It is believed no addreſs will now be ſent up. If there ſhould, it is expected a petition will be ſigned by the merchants and manufacturers, begging that an end may be put to the preſent unneceſſary, unnatural, and ruinous war."—No addreſs from Glaſgow has yet appeared in the gazette.

In the beginning of November a branch of the bank of Scotland was eſtabliſhed at Air, ſimilar to thoſe formerly eſtabliſhed at Dumfries, Kelſo, Inverneſs, and Kilmarnock [340.]. At thoſe five places credits are given on caſh-accounts, bills of exchange are purchaſed, and bills payable at thoſe places and at Edinburgh are diſcounted. Little ſpecie is needed at the branches; for the company's notes, are payable only at Edinburgh.

In the end of December, ſhares in this bank, which coſt the original proprietors only 1000 l. Scots, i. e. L. 83 : 6 : 8 Sterling, ſold at L. 125 Sterling. Nor is ſuch a price too high: for the ſecurity is unqueſtionable; and as the bank divides three per cent. on the original ſtock half-yearly, ſuch purchaſers have four per cent. per ann. on their money paid punctually every half-year; whereas ſince February laſt our banks give only three per cent. on money lent them for a full year, and but two and a half if lent only for ſix months; and our private bankers give only three per cent. unleſs the money lie in their hands ſix months, and four if it lie ſix months or more. —— Of late conſiderable ſums are ſaid to have been ſent down from England to be lent out in Scotland, becauſe in England the intereſt is low.

One Thomas Bell was charged before the magiſtrates in Bow-ſtreet, London, Sept. 27. with an intended forgery on the bank of Scotland. He firſt applied to a paper-maker to make him a quantity of paper with *Bank of Scotland* wrought in it, and afterwards to an engraver to get a plate exactly imitating a note of that bank, which he produced. This done, he produced the paper to have 700 copies wrought off. But Mr Mackay, the engraver, having previouſly acquainted Mr Kinloch, agent for the bank of Scotland, with every ſtep taken, Bell was apprehended, and committed to priſon. He is but a young man, yet was ſome time ago impriſoned for a ſimilar offence, but releaſed for want of ſufficient evidence.—He is ſince diſcharged; becauſe, happily for Bell, though contrary to his wiſhes, the intention was not carried into full execution. Had he proceeded ſo far with regard to the bank of England, it would, by a particular ſtatute, have been capital.

The woollen manufacture is at preſent a favourite object in Scotland [536. xxxvi.

390.]. Towards the end of September notice was given in the papers, that Mr Chaplin of Lincolnſhire's rams were to ſerve ewes in Scotland, the enſuing ſeaſon, at the Duke of Hamilton's at Hamilton, the Duke of Buccleugh's at Dalkeith, the Earl of Roſebery's at Barnbougle, Dr Hay's at Hayſton, Sir John Dalrymple's at Cranſton, and at Mr Hay's of Newhall, at half a crown each ewe, and a trifle for the graſs two or three weeks. The rams are ſhort thick ſheep, with long ſhining ſoft wool. Their weight is about fourteen ſtone Engliſh, and their wool about fourteen pound Engliſh The chief view of them is to improve the moorland ſheep of this country, which perhaps heavier rams could not compaſs; and it was upon that account they were commiſſioned.

A woollen manufactory is eſtabliſhed by ſubſcription at Haddington by the gentlemen and farmers of Eaſt Lothian, a plan ſuggeſted by Mr David Loch. About the middle of October there were about a hundred ſubſcribers, and the number was increaſing. The loweſt ſubſcription received is 5 l. and the higheſt 100 l.; it being judged, that the greater the number of partners be, the ſurer will the market be for the goods, among the families and connections of the partners. None are allowed to ſubſcribe who do not reſide within the county. —— A manufacture of yarn for coarſe woollen cloth and blankets has been carried on for ſome time paſt at Inverary, by the Duke of Argyle, and the gentlemen of that country [54.], and it is in a thriving condition.

The Duke of Buccleugh is a great encourager of Scots manufactures. On the 30th of September his Grace, attended by Commiſſioner Menzies, and ſome other gentlemen, viſited ſeveral of the woollen manufactories at Muſſelburgh, and took ſamples of different webs of broad cloath.

On the 10th of October a wager was determined, at Fortune's tavern, Edinburgh, on the quality of the beef of two bullocks, one fed by the Duke of Buccleugh, the other by John Lumſdaine of Blanairn, Eſq; A ſirloin of each was roaſted; and it took two men to carry each to the table. The wager was determined in favour of the Duke. Beſides his Grace, and Mr Lumſdaine, there were a goodly number of other noblemen, gentlemen, clergy, &c. at dinner, twenty-one in number, all dreſſed in the manufactures of Scotland.

By an advertiſement, dated Oct. 6. the Truſtees for Manufactures, &c. give notice, That having received information, that ſome irregularities and frauds had of late crept in among the weavers of brown linens, in the counties of Perth, Forfar, and Fife, they appointed officers of approved ſkill to make a ſurvey thro' theſe places, to inſpect the conduct of the ſtampmaſters and weavers: That in the courſe of this ſurvey, many hundreds of weavers reeds were deſtroyed, that were either very irregular, or handed, i. e. thicker on the ſelvages than in the middle; and a number of webs of brown linen were found in the cuſtody of ſundry dealers that were inſufficient, and ought not to have been ſtamped: That theſe webs, after being examined by a jury, were cut into pieces of ſix yards, and given to the charity-workhouſe; and the ſtampmaſters who ſtamped them, after paying the full value of the webs to the owners, were, ſome of them fined, and others diſmiſſed from the Board's ſervice: That the Truſtees give this public intimation of their procedure, not only as an admonition to their ſtampmaſters to pay the ſtricteſt attention to their duty, but alſo as an aſſurance to dealers, that they will get the moſt ample damages againſt any ſtampmaſter who ſhall be found guilty of inattention to the credit of the national ſtamp. And on information that a practice prevails of ſelling and buying brown linens unſtamped, the Truſtees give notice, That they have ordered their officers to put an immediate ſtop to this practice, by proſecuting offenders in terms of law, which inflicts a penalty of five pounds Sterling on the ſeller, and an equal ſum on the buyer, of every piece of unſtamped linen. —— On the 10th of October the Truſtes ſent 1832 yards of the aforementioned condemned brown linens to the charity-workhouſe of Edinburgh.

On Monday, Nov. 27. the foundation-ſtone of a building for the Royal College of Phyſicians was laid, in the New Town of Edinburgh, by Dr Cullen, Preſident, in preſence of the other members of the college.

On Sunday, Oct. 15. about two o'clock in the morning, certain malicious and ill-diſpoſed perſons broke into the church of Liberton; pulled down the ſeat, the book-board, and ſome other parts of the pulpit; greatly damaged and defaced the galleries

galleries of ſeveral families of diſtinction; and committed a variety of outrages in the neighbourhood. The heritors of the pariſh, by an advertiſement, offer ten guineas reward to any perſon who will diſcover the actors of this impious riot, ſo as they may be convicted.

In the month of October there were inundations in ſeveral places.——A letter from Eaſt Lothian; dated Oct. 9. ſays, "On Tueſday, Oct. 3. it began to rain pretty ſeverely off N. E. which continued without intermiſſion till Thurſday morning. The river Tyne roſe gradually till about two o'clock on Wedneſday afternoon, when it ſwelled prodigiouſly. It was computed to be twenty-five feet perpendicular above the uſual run of the water, and eight or ten feet higher than any one remembers ever to have ſeen it. About five o'clock it began to fall, tho' it ſtill rained violently, and continued ſo all that night. The greateſt devaſtation has been done on the banks of the river: vaſt quantities of corn, hay, trees, and all ſorts of houſehold furniture, were carried down by the current."—We cannot mention all the particulars. At Haddington it carried away the fine Chineſe bridge, and laid all the Nungate under water, the inhabitants being obliged to retire to the houſe-tops. Upon a medium the water was up to the ſecond ſtorey of the houſes from the bridge weſtward to the foot of the high ſtreet. Another letter ſays, "Mr Forreſt at Gimmers-mills had one of his mills entirely carried off, beſides a conſiderable loſs in the reſt of his houſes, corn, hay, &c. He and another gentleman were in his garden obſerving the rapidity of the torrent, when, all of a ſudden, they were ſurrounded with the water, which laid the garden-dike on its back. They had no other ſhift left but to get up to the top of one of the fruit-trees; and there they were obliged to remain five or ſix hours, under the moſt dreadful apprehenſions of being carried down the current, tree and all."—At Samuelſton, a village above Haddington, ſeveral families narrowly eſcaped, ſome of them having been taken out at the roofs of their houſes; and a tailor, whoſe cries were for a long time not heard, was found, when acceſs was got to him, ſtanding in his bed up to the middle in water, holding up his two infants to prevent their being drowned, the water waſhing their feet.—There are accounts of inundations in the ſouth, weſt, and north, about the ſame time and afterward.

On Wedneſday, Nov. 29. a man returning home from Glaſgow, fell into an old coal-pit near Cairntine, and periſhed. What a ſting muſt this give to the perſon or perſons by whoſe neglect ſuch a melancholy accident happened!

From a ſounding of the river Clyde, from the lower end of Dumbuck ford, to the Broomilaw quay of Glaſgow, taken on the 8th day of December, by Colin Dunlop, Eſq; of Carmyle, Meſſ. Hugh Wylie and John Douglas, merchants in Glaſgow, in conſequence of a warrant directed to them by the ſheriff-depute of the county of Lanerk, it appears, that the ſaid river, within the bounds above mentioned, is more than ſeven feet deep at an ordinary neap tide, and that Mr Golborne engineer has fully implemented his contract with the city of Glaſgow.

The ſociety in Edinburgh for relief of induſtrious poor, which ſubſiſted for the three winters paſt [xxxvi. 677.], give notice, by an advertiſement dated Dec. 19. that as the price of meal was conſiderably fallen, and the weather till then uncommonly mild, they intended not to have at all ſolicited the public aid this winter; but finding that great diſtreſs prevailed among the lower ranks of people, by reaſon of the late general ſickneſs, they had reſolved to iſſue ſupplies for this ſeaſon alſo, but upon a different plan; meaning to confine this charity entirely to thoſe who are laid aſide from work by ſickneſs or caſualties, and not to extend it to thoſe who are only in want of employment; and to prevent the deſire of no applications, but ſuch as ſhall be certified by a member of the committee, in conſequence of his perſonal viſitation and inquiry. The money at preſent in the treaſurer's hand amounts only to 42 l. Sterling. Benefactions are received by different gentlemen, named.

Upon a reclaiming petition for Mr Scotland of Dunfermline, and anſwers for Mr James Thomſon miniſter of that pariſh [110.], the court of ſeſſion, Dec. 19. gave judgement in the action brought by the former of theſe gentlemen againſt the latter, on account of his behaviour in the pulpit on Sunday Oct. 30. 1774 [xxxvi. 620.].—"The court *unanimouſly* expreſſed the utmoſt indignation at Mr Thomſon's conduct."—This having appeared in a news-paper, a correſpondent of the Caledonian Mercury, Dec. 20. gave the

the following account.—" Yeſterday the Lords of Seſſion, by a *majority*, altered the interlocutor of Lord Gardenſton, in the proceſs, *Scotland* againſt the Rev. Mr *Thomſon*, and found damages and expences due, by a judgement very unfavourable to the defenders; which will no doubt appear in all the news-papers, as it has already been *erroneouſly* repreſented in ſome of them, as *unanimous*. The public will, therefore be glad to hear what was ſaid on the other ſide. Lord KAMES was for a proof before anſwer, in order that the court might know, *if nothing was ſaid of the purſuers but what was true*; becauſe, if it ſhould really come out, that they were as bad as repreſented, they could not be intitled to damages or expences. Lord HAILES was for aſſoilzieing Mr Thomſon from Mr Scotland's action againſt him; becauſe it appeared to his Lordſhip, that the fact ſtood thus: Mr Thomſon preached againſt vice in general; Mr Scotland taking this to himſelf, publiſhed in the Caledonian Mercury an abuſive letter, pointing out Mr Thomſon as clearly as if he had named him; Mr Thomſon attacked Scotland from the pulpit; Mr Scotland inſtantly retaliated: The ſcales therefore were equal; and Mr Scotland could have no damages, eſpecially as he was the original aggreſſor. Lord GARDENSTON ſaid, That he looked upon the Rev. Mr Thomſon to be a ſerious worthy man, who preached againſt vice in general, without taking any ſide in the politics of the burgh: That Mr Scotland gave him moſt groſs provocation by his letter in the Caledonian Mercury; and that Mr Thomſon's animadverſions upon him, from the pulpit, were retorted by abuſe from Mr Scotland, in open congregation."——The interlocutor was in theſe words: " The Lords having adviſed this petition, with the anſwers; in reſpect of the improper conduct of the defender, Mr James Thomſon, unſuitable to the character of a miniſter of the goſpel, contrary to the decency, dignity, and purity, of the pulpit, and highly injurious to the purſuers; find the ſaid Mr James Thomſon liable to the purſuers in damages and expences; of which ordains a condeſcendence and accompt to be given in: and, in this caſe, refuſe to allow a proof of the alledged *veritas convicii*. ALEX. BOSWELL, I. P. D."—— The Lords Preſident, Juſtice-Clerk, and Pitfour, were not preſent.

MARRIAGES.

Nov 3. At Dalkeith, David Wilſon, journeyman-gardner, to Catharine Craw, aged 40, his fifth wife. He is ſeventy-one years of age. His firſt wife was a Dutch woman, whoſe name he has forgot, the other four were all Scotſwomen.

29. At Melvill houſe, Fifeſhire, John Belſches, Eſq; Advocate, to Lady Jane Leſly, eldeſt daughter of the Earl of Leven and Melvill.

In Ireland, the Duke of Leinſter, to the Hon Miſs St George, daughter of the late Lord St George.

Dec. 1. At Balbairdie, Linlithgowſhire, James Wardrop of Torbainhill, Eſq; to Miſs Chriſtian Marjoribanks, daughter of the deceaſed Andrew Marjoribanks of that Ilk.

4. At Preſtonpans, Lieut. John Delgaty, aged 62, to Miſs Margaret Tait, aged 18.

At York, Mr Thomas, a grenadier in the Yorkſhire militia, ſix feet two inches high, to Miſs Hannah Tennick of Clearlam, three feet two inches high, with a fortune of 5000l.

BIRTHS.

Sept. 22. At Binn, in the pariſh of Kinfauns, Perthſhire, the wife of Robert Dow, farmer there, was ſafely delivered of a boy and two girls; who were baptized, in the Antiburgher meeting houſe, in Perth, Oct. 1. by the names of *William*, *Jean*, and *Catharine*; and are likely to do well.

" *Caſerta*, *Nov.* 28. On Thurſday laſt, about ſeven o' clock in the morning, her Sicilian Majeſty was ſafely delivered of a princeſs. The private baptiſm was immediately performed; and the names of *Marianna*, *Guiſeppa*, *Giovanna*, *Antonia*, *Tereſa*, *Amelia*, *Gaetana*, and *Clementina*, were given to the infant" *Lond. gaz.*

Dec. 3. At Weſtquarter, Stirlingſhire, Mrs Livingſton of Weſtquarter, of a ſon.

14. At Annsfield, near Hamilton, the Lady of Lord Cochran, of a ſon. [xxxvi. 558.]

DEATHS.

Oct. 11. At Barbadoes, Mrs Hay, lady of the Governor of that iſland.

24. At Philadelphia, in the 53d year of his age, the Hon. Peyton Randolph, Eſq; of Virginia, late Preſident of the Continental Congreſs, and Speaker of the Houſe of Burgeſſes of Virginia.

Nov. 17. At Arbroath, Mr William Bell, miniſter of that pariſh.

At the manſe of Yarrow, Dr James Lorimer, miniſter of that pariſh.

At Lilly, Hertfordſhire, aged 105, Sir George Hawkinſon, Kt, who was phyſician to King George I.

Dec. 1. In the county of Devon, Sir Richard Spry, Rear-Admiral of the White.

2. At London, William Combes, aged 109.

He

He was a ſoldier in all K. William and Q. Anne's wars.

3. At Edinburgh, John Graham, Eſq; late merchant in Leith.

4. Near Liverpool, Mr John Hancock, farmer, aged 112.

5. At Aberdeen, Mrs Sarah Elphingſton, wife of George Gordon of Rothney.

5. At Aberdeen, Miſs Peggy Mackenzie, daughter of the late Colin Mackenzie, Eſq; of Kilcoy.

6. At London, of the gout in his ſtomach, Sir Charles Saunders, K. B. member for Heydon in Yorkſhire, Admiral of the Blue ſquadron, Lieutenant-General of Marines, and Elder Brother of the Trinity-Houſe.

6. At Edinburgh, aged 58, Mr Alexander Aitchiſon jeweller in that city.

8. At Balcomie, Fifeſhire, John Scott, Eſq; Major-General of his Majeſty's forces, Colonel of the 26th regiment of foot, and member of parliament for Fifeſhire.

At Pollington, Yorkſhire, Iſabel Hobman, widow, aged 101.

At Haliwhiſtle, Northumberland, Dr Alexander Maxwell, in the 103d year of his age.

10. At Inverneſs, in an advanced age, James Menzies of Culdairs, Eſq;

10. At Edinburgh, William Fraſer of Balnain, Eſq; writer to the ſignet.

10. At Montroſe, Dr John Mackenzie of Strickathro.

11. At Haddington, Mrs Katharine Hay, ſiſter to Sir George Hay-Macdougal of Makerſton, Bt.

11. At Altyre, Morayſhire, George Cumming of Altyre, Eſq;

"*Leeds, Dec.* 19. Saturday ſe'enight died, at the Nag's-head, in Warrington, Mr Allen junior; on Sunday died Mrs Allen, his mother; and on Monday died Mr Allen, his father."

12. At Edinburgh, Mrs Eliſabeth Mackenzie, widow of Lt. Col. Gordon Graham, late of the royal highland regiment.

13. At Hackney, Mrs Abbot, aged 102.

14. At Berwick, in an advanced age, Samuel Rogers, Eſq; town-major of that garriſon.

15. At Edinburgh, Alexander Crawfurd, Eſq; ſon of James Crawfurd, Eſq; merchant in Rotterdam.

15. At Edinburgh, Mr James Aliſon writer in that city.

At Edinburgh, Mrs Iſabella Wright, ſpouſe of Thomas Glen, Eſq; phyſician, and ſiſter to Sir James Wright, governor of Georgia.

16. At Edinburgh, Mr Andrew Sinclair, merchant of that city.

21. At Kincraig, Roſsſhire, Mrs Chriſtian Mackenzie, daughter of the deceaſed James Menzies of Comrie, and relict of John Mackenzie of Kincraig, Eſq;

24. At Urquhart, Mr James Calder, miniſter at Croy.

26. At Kilmaurs, Airſhire, of the influenza, or infectious cold, James Wilſon, ſometime of Tourlands, and in Haghouſe, aged one hundred and ſix or upwards. He was not at any time of life confined one day to bed by ſickneſs, until the day before he died. He diſcovered much vivacity, and ready wit, even in the lateſt months of his life.

28. At London, in the 67th year of his age, John Campbell, L. L. D. his Majeſty's agent for the province of Georgia in North America, author of the Political Survey of G. Britain [xxxvi. 253.], and of many other learned and ingenious works.

28. At Edinburgh, Mrs Eliſabeth Ogilvy, relict of David Fothringham, Eſq;

29. At his houſe in Glaſgow, Mr Andrew Ramſay, merchant in that city.

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleaſed,

Dec. 5. to grant unto Francis Bartlam, Eſq; the offices and places of Clerk of the Robes and Wardrobes in ordinary to his Majeſty, in the room and upon the ſurrender of Edward Colman, Eſq;

15. to create the Rt. Hon. Lt-Gen. Sir John Irwine, commander in chief of the forces in Ireland, P. C. a Knight of the Moſt Honourable Military Order of the Bath.

16. to appoint the Rt. Hon. Sir George Macartney, K. B. to be Captain-General and Governor in Chief of the iſlands of Grenada, the Grenadines, and Tobago, in America, in the room of William Leyborne Leyborne, Eſq; deceaſed.

War-office, Dec. 12. 1775.

1ſt reg. of dragoons: Capt. Wiltſhire Wilſon is appointed to be Major, vice Edward Coleman; who retires.

Ditto: Capt. George Leathes to be Captain of a Troop, vice Wiltſhire Wilſon; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. Thomas Garth to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice George Leathes; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Corn. Henry Andrew Cerjat to be Lieutenant, vice Thomas Garth; by purchaſe.

3d reg. of dragoons: Maj. Richard Whyte to be Lieutenant Colonel, vice Henry Stanley; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Capt. Huntingdon Tilden to be Major, vice Richard Whyte; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Capt. John Callow to be Captain of a Troop, vice Huntingdon Tilden; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. James Lovibond to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice John Callow; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Corn. Richard Barry to be Lieutenant, vice James Lovibond; by purchaſe.

11th reg. of dragoons: Lieut. John Popple to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Adam Cockburne; by purchaſe.

Ditto:

Ditto: Corn. Thomas Dalton to be Lieutenant, vice John Popple: by purchaſe.

Ditto: Arthur Carter, Gent to be Cornet, vice Thomas Dalton; by purchaſe.

15th reg. of light dragoons: Capt. Francis Auguſtus Elliott, of the 10th dragoons, to be Major, vice David Dundas, preferred; by purchaſe.

Royals, 1ſt bat.: William Clerk, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Robert Corſane; by purchaſe.

13th reg. of foot: Enſ. James Montgomery, of 51ſt foot, to be Enſign, vice Charles Ruſh, preferred; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. Walter Scott to be Captain, vice Hugh Cameron; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ. John Ogilvie to be Lieutenant, vice Walter Scott; by purchaſe.

Ditto: —— Stone, Gent. to be Enſign, vice John Ogilvie; by purchaſe

Ditto: —— Newton, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Roberts.

Ditto: Enſ James Montgomery to be Adjutant, vice Thomas Daniel Black.

Ditto: Lieut. Garnet Loving to be Quartermaſter, vice Walter Scott

19th reg. of foot: Lt-Col. Charles Mawhood, of 19th foot, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice John Darby.

32d reg. of foot: Oſborn Wilſon, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Faulkner.

35th reg. of foot: Lieut. Archibald M'Alliſter to be Captain, vice Henry Jenkins; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Lieut. Joſeph Banks to be Quartermaſter, vice Archibald M'Alliſter.

51ſt reg of foot: Richard Stewart, Gent. to be Enſign, vice James Montgomery; by purchaſe.

61ſt reg. of foot: Enſ. Robert Meech to be Lieutenant, vice Robert Norton, deceaſed.

Ditto: —— Fane, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Robert Meech

68th reg. of foot: Surgeon —— Roſe to be Surgeon, vice Caleb Barker; by purchaſe.

Ditto: Enſ Anthony Storey to be Lieutenant, vice Richard Taylor, who retires.

Ditto: John Burvill, Gent. to be Enſign, vice Anthony Storey.

To be Lieutenant-Colonels in the army.

Lt-Col'

John Hill, of the 9th foot.

James Coates, of the 19th foot.

David Dundas, of the 12th dragoons.

Ralph Dundas, of the 11th dragoons.

John Maxwell, of the 17th foot.

Harry Blunt, of the 4th foot.

Alured Clark, of the 54th foot.

Majors.

Philip Ainſlie, of the 2d troop of horſe grenadier guards.

Richard Whyte, of the 3d dragoons.

Surgeon George Milligen to be Surgeon to the garriſon of Mobile.

Richard Grant, Clerk, to be Chaplain to the garriſon of St John's in North America, vice Stephen Walſh, deceaſed.

From other papers.

Maj.-Gen. John Hale, is appointed Governor of Londonderry and Culmore fort, vice Maj.-Gen. Irwine.

Maj.-Gen. Henry Clinton, to be Governor of Limerick, vice Maj.-Gen. Hale.

Major David Dundas, from the 25th, dragoons, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Lt-Col. Medows, removed to the 55th. foot.

James Colquhoun, Eſq; Advocate, eldeſt ſon of Sir James Colquhoun of Luſs, is appointed Sheriff-depute of Dumbartonſhire, in the room of James Smollet of Bonhill, Eſq; deceaſed.

Mr John Hunter, Profeſſor of Humanity in the united colleges of St Andrew's, in the room of Mr John Hill [408.]. Admitted December 4.

New Members.

James Lowther, Eſq; of Aikton, in the county of Cumberland, for the county of Weſtmoreland, in the room of Sir James Lowther, who has made his election for Cumberland.

Edward Meux Worſley, Eſq; of Gatcombs, for Newton, in the Iſle of Wight, in the room of Sir John Barrington, Bt, who has accepted of the ſtewardſhip of the chiltern hundreds.

Sir Robert Murray-Keith, K. B. ambaſſador to the court of Vienna, for the county of Peebles, in the room of Captain Adam Hay, deceaſed.

Prices of grain at Haddington, Jan. 5. 1776.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	19 s. 6 d.	18 s. 0 d.	17 s 6 d.
Bear,	14 s. 6 d.	13 s. 4 d.	12 s. 6 d.
Oats,	10 s. 0 d.	9 s. 6 d.	8 s. 0 d.
Peaſe,	9 s. 9 d.	8 s. 6 d.	8 s. 0 d.

Edinburgh, Jan. 16. 1776. Oat-meal, 10 d. Bear-meal, 7 d. Peaſe-meal, 7d.

The Edinburgh bill of burials for December 1775.

Within the city	Males 44	Fem. 55	99	143. Incr. 3.
In the Weſt-kirk-yard	Males 18	Fem. 26	44	

Age.			No	Diſeases.	No.
Under		2	30	Aged ——	26
Between	2 &	5	12	Aſthma ——	2
	5 &	10	7	Bowelhive ——	4
	10 &	20	9	Chincough ——	10
	20 &	30	6	Child bed ——	2
	30 &	40	12	Conſumption ——	45
	40 &	50	14	Fever ——	34
	50 &	60	15	Meaſles ——	3
	60 &	70	18	Rupture ——	1
	70 &	80	16	Small pox ——	5
	80 &	90	4	Still born ——	5
	90 &	100	0	Teething ——	6